The Middlebury Campus

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SGA affirms confidence in Earle by landslide 25-2-4 margin

In contentious three-hour meeting, SGA President overcomes detractors

By R. Jon Baronowski

The Student Government Association (SGA) gave its president, Chip Earle, an overwhelming vote of confidence 25-2-4 at this week's general assembly meeting. The vote came in response to a call for Earle's resignation a week earlier by four prominent student leaders.

Jeff Albertson '95, Dan Haley '95, Matt Hamilton '95 and Mary Robertson '95 began the process last week by writing a letter to *The Campus*, formally seeking Earle's resignation. They met with Earle the day before the letter was submitted and gave him the option to step down citing whatever reasons he wished to make public. Earle refused, submitting his own letter in defense and announcing his plan to devote Sunday's SGA meeting to the issue by requesting a vote of confidence or no confidence from the representatives.

This set the stage for last Sunday's spectacle, pitting Earle and the group of four against one another in a marathon meeting that lasted more than three hours.

After opening the meeting, Earle relinquished the chair to Vice President Dumith Fernando '95. Following some brief remarks on decorum and protocol, Fernando allowed Albertson to begin his group's presentation.

Albertson, treasurer of the SGA and the chair of the Finance and Comprehensive Fee Committees, emphasized that while he had been patient with Earle, a change was needed. "I tried to help the SGA function effectively. I have given the best advice I could on every occasion. I brought important information to [Earle] and I made many unsolicited suggestions," said Albertson. "I have covered for Chip

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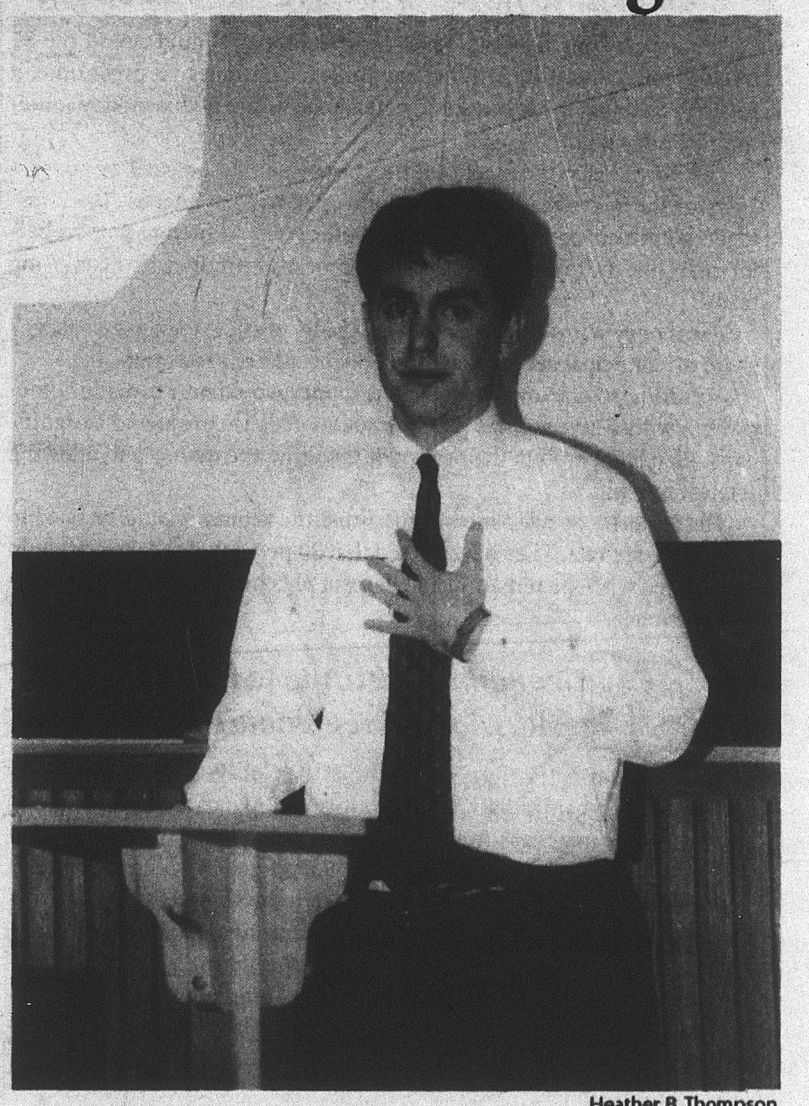

Heather B. Thompson

SGA President Chip Earle reacts to the overwhelming vote of confidence.

Driver in fatal accident fined $300

By Ryan D'Agostino

Two weeks ago, Rutland Vermont District Court Judge Theodore Mandeville decided that Kurt Renner will receive a $300 fine and no jail time for colliding with a car driven by Debby Edelstein, then a Middlebury sophomore, which resulted in Edelstein's death. Teresa Manzano '96 was also in Edelstein's car the night of the crash, November 28, 1993. She was injured but survived, as did both of Renner's passengers.

Renner's lawyer, Stephen Klein, claimed that as Renner was passing a car on Route 103 in Clarendon, a dip in the road caused his inability to see Edelstein's oncoming car. Witnesses deny that there is a dip and say that Renner sped up when he saw Edelstein's car even though it had veered into the breakdown lane to avoid him.

"[The road] is as flat as flat can be," said Barbara Hyjek of Rutland. "I remember thinking, 'What the hell is that kid doing?'" Renner's ex-girlfriend Colleen Dunne said that she cannot remember many details about the accident but that she has had "dreams about a dip in the road."

When Mandeville allowed Edelstein's parents to speak in court, it looked as if their concerns did not matter very much, if at all, to the court. At one point while Stewart Edelstein was speaking, he stopped for 15 seconds until Mandeville looked up from his papers. The judge asked Edelstein if he was finished, to which Edelstein replied that he was waiting for the judge's attention.

"Well, you have it now," said Mandeville curtly.

Two months previous to his crash with Edelstein, Renner hit and killed a pedestrian in Whitehall, NY. He received a $75 fine for speeding.

Edelstein's parents, who are divorced and live in Connecticut, remain shocked at the decision and grief-stricken over the loss of their daughter.

"Debby had a zest for life, a love of nature and compassion for others," her father said last week. "Someone described her as a person who woke up every morning an optimist."

Compiled from reports in the Burlington Free Press.

Feast marks end of Ramadan

Heather B. Thompson

Rezwan Sharif '95 serves Political Science Professor Mitchell Smith at a feast celebrating the end of Ramadan. During the month of Ramadan, Muslims reflect upon those less fortunate by fasting during the day.

MCAB stretches its shrinking budget

By Ryan D'Agostino and Tricia Lucey

The Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) has announced that The Samples will be coming to campus on April 28 for the annual spring concert. The Board also publicly disclosed its funds this week in an effort to bring the main social group on campus into the public sphere. For the 1994-95 fiscal year, MCAB is operating on a total budget of $60,270.

The MCAB budget has traditionally, although unofficially, been cushioned with an additional $10,000 from the SGA Finance Committee towards the end of the year. That grant is not considered reliable and cannot be an assumption which is factored into budget projections. The amount is nevertheless considered to be similar to an expected stipend which helps the Board as it plans for the annual spring concert.

The Finance Committee also provides a stipend for the MCAB president and vice president, which Committee Chair Jeff Albertson '95 said amounts to about $2,000 a year. In addition, MCAB requests occasional miscellaneous funding, so the total annual contribution from the Finance Committee usually adds up to more than $10,000.

Middlebury's small size, rural location and modest budget make it difficult to get well-known bands, according to MCAB members. The Board works with Pretty Polly Productions from Boston to determine which bands are available to come to Middlebury. MCAB Concert Co-chairs Clinton Bierman '97 and Robb Birdsong '97 initially requested the Irish group the Cranberries, but they refused the bid on the grounds that they would not play in venues which hold less than 8,000 people. The Dave Matthews Band and Big Head Todd and the Monsters were also considered as a double billing, but the two groups will be touring in Europe during the spring.

"The Samples worked out well for us logistically and financially," said Bierman. "It was good for our budget, which means that we will

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Residential Life approves proposed new commons

By Marlisa Simonson

President John McCardell will soon decide on a proposal from the Residential Life Committee recommending space and budget allotments for Thomas Commons to become non-residential. Under the proposal, Gifford and Hepburn residents would remain part of a renamed commons.

The idea of the Commons System taking on a non-residential aspect after only three years in existence is controversial. Some see it as a natural evolution, while others feel changes at this stage will jeopardize the current system [see page 2 for a discussion of the Commons System and its future]. Still more observers believe there is always the chance that a better residential system exists. McCardell plans to experiment with the non-residential component, possibly as soon as next year, in order to compare that system with the current system.

A foray into a non-residential system does not signal a failure of the current residentially-based commons.

"There has been growing support for the residential system," said Kathy Ebner, director of residential life. "We would just like to try some other ideas before settling on one particular model."

One of the original goals for the Commons System was increased social options for students, and it is hoped that having a non-residentially-based outlet will provide even more flexibility of choice. As Mc-

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Middlebury Briefs

Town debates future of College's $1 million gift

The debate over how the Town of Middlebury should spend the $1 million granted to it by Middlebury College continues. At press time, it was expected that the town would vote on the future of this money sometime Tuesday night.

The Town Selectmen feel that the money should be used as tax revenue for the next decade rather than invested to earn interest. Town residents were also expected to decide whether they wanted to vote by ballot each time the town proposes to use some of the money to offset rising taxes.

The money was donated by the College in an effort to pay the college's share of municipal services such as police and fire protection.

According to one town resident, the money would only provide homeowners with a savings of $30-40 annually. This is considered insignificant when compared to the benefit of investing the money and allowing interest to build.

The majority of selectmen suggest that the money should be used to reduce the tax rate. They have agreed that 20 percent of the money could be invested with the remaining 80 percent plus interest being used to reduce tax rates.

Geonomics Institute to host Russian entrepreneurs

The Geonomics Institute, an affiliate of the College, together with several statewide organizations, will introduce 40 Russian entrepreneurs and small business managers to the successful operation of small and medium-sized Vermont businesses during 1995.

Partially funded by a $247,000 grant from the United States Information Agency, the program will assist Russian business managers to grow and develop businesses in Vermont while also offering Vermont companies with a low-risk mechanism to explore commercial and trade opportunities in Russia. The first group of 10 Russian entrepreneurs is expected to be in Vermont from April 9 to May 12.

Students return to campus following bout with meningitis

The two students who were infected with bacterial meningitis last week have almost completely returned to health and are preparing to return to the daily grind of college life. Taylor Mahony '96 and Amy Durato '97 were both hospitalized with the disease, which infects spinal fluid and can prove fatal.

"I dodged a bullet," said Mahony earlier this week. "I was in pretty bad shape. At one point, my father said that I had a 50-50 chance of survival. I feel a lot better. I'm in the clear."

Mahony spent five days in intensive care in Burlington. He said that he was, in medical terms, "oriented times one," which means that he knew who he was but not where he was or when it was. The infection of the spinal fluid causes the brain to swell, resulting in severe headaches and disorientation. "There wasn't enough room in my head for my brain," he said.

Durato will also return to campus either today or tomorrow from her home in Connecticut. She reports that she is taking intravenous antibiotics daily and is feeling much better. "I've seen a lot of movies," she said.

Commons' function may be altered

Non-residential commons challenges the concept of what a commons is

News Analysis
By Will Clark

Under a proposal adding a sixth, non-residence hall based commons, the three-year-old system may face the most significant change since its inception. The proposal would partially abandon one of the tenets upon which the Commons System was founded.

The Commons System originated as an idea advanced by the Residential Life Committee in the winter of 1991. Originally, the committee envisioned six commons, with a mixture of continuing and non-continuing commons. In a continuing commons, students would be affiliated with a specific commons throughout their undergraduate career. The continuing commons proposal was tabled, and only last year did it return to discussion. During room draw last year, some students were permitted to draw special "continuing commons"-designated rooms. Students drew these rooms with the understanding that they would actively participate in their Commons.

According to a *Campus* article from the January 17, 1991 edition, the Commons System "is based on a desire to see more students engaged in the life of the community and to give them a source of identity." Committee member Karen Gnuse '91 felt that the Commons "gives the school something it's lacking, which is a sense of a smaller setting to interact...The Commons gives students another sense of identity."

A major effort was made on the part of the Committee to make the Commons System feel less like an imposition on college life. Committee member Nando Zucchi '91 said in 1991 that the report "doesn't force change on people who don't want it. It's trying to implement a system that people will like and want to join. It provides incentives to people who decide to participate in it."

The Commons System also served as a way to clarify the somewhat chaotic use of dorm funds. Previously, each dorm was allocated $10-20 per dorm resident. These funds were taken from the student activities fee. When the Commons System was implemented, these dorm funds were transformed into Commons funds. After volatile discussions last spring, the Finance Committee and the Inter-Commons Council reached an agreement which would provide the Finance Committee more information about Commons funding. Before this agreement, there had been no contact between the two groups.

Under the agreement, signed by Wendy Russell '95 of the Inter-Commons Council and Jeff Albertson '95 of the Finance Committee, the two organizations will consult three times each year to discuss annual planning and responsible spending.

One year ago, President McCardell launched a committee to examine the long-term future of the Commons System. Speaking in the March 3, 1994 edition of *The Campus*, McCardell stated, "Too many people are still asking what the commons is, what the college's plan is, and if the Board of Trustees and the administration are committed to the idea...it's time for us to answer those questions and offer a blueprint." McCardell criticized any thoughts toward inaction, suggesting that allowing the system to "evolve" represents "an abdication of responsibility for one of the things that makes Middlebury distinctive."

As stated in a *Campus* article from September 10, 1992, "The purpose of the Commons System is both to give more students more say in the direction of residential life and to create more interaction between faculty, staff, and students." The general themes in the formation of the Commons System were to a) provide more structure in the residential life of students and b) allow students more leadership opportunities.

During last spring's discussions, those goals were not changed. With a proposed new, non-residential commons, however, the Commons would encounter its most dramatic change since the creation of the program.

The identity of the Commons is invariably linked to those who live and participate in the residences which comprise each Commons. While events are traditionally open to all members of the college community, approval for those events lies in the hands of those who live there and consequently choose to fund these events.

A non-residential commons would change that process. Membership would presumably be open to all members of the student body sharing an interest in the events promoted by the non-residential commons. It has yet to be made clear, however, how this organization would fundamentally differ from a very large club with a few faculty advisors.

The main difference between the new non-residential commons and clubs on campus is the source of funding. Whereas clubs must battle each other for scarce allocations from the Finance Committee, a non-residential commons might receive its money directly from the college without the middle step of a student oversight committee.

It can be argued that a non-residential commons is abandoning the manifest principle upon which it was founded. In the move to become non-residential, it loses official college sanction and would presumably have to lobby for college recognition. This would also require a constitution amenable to SGA and the Finance Committee before it could receive any funds.

In an effort to address these concerns and others, the Community Council will be holding a special session today, Thursday, March 9, at 5:30 p.m. in Old Chapel 1.

College Shorts
By Dianna Rosser

UCSD engineers develop amphibious footwear

The University of San Diego challenged engineering students and professors to create a pair of shoes which would carry the wearer safely across a body of water last month. Nearly one hundred students from the high school and university level participated in the contest.

Participants attempted to cross the width of an Olympic size pool without getting wet. The winning team came from San Diego and waddled to first place with a time of 35 seconds. Their shoes were constructed of Styrofoam and plywood and weighed 15 pounds. This is the third year the university has sponsored the event.

Students dig for buried treasure at the Alamo

St. Mary's University, located in San Antonio, directed archaeology professor Thomas Guderjan and his class to take an extended field trip to the Alamo last month. Another archaeology group had detected metal some 16 feet below the surface and encouraged further investigation, suspecting that their findings might indicate buried treasure. The students' dig, which will not be completed until next year, will cost the school $120,000.

Thus far, the group has delved four feet beneath the historical battle site but have yet to strike gold. They have uncovered Indian artifacts and cow bones, however. Despite their seeming insignificance, these findings illustrate that Indians and Mexicans had worked together, as the Mexican cows had been slain with Indian tools dating before 1836.

Disturbing visions haunt Valpariso student

Patricia Klein, a student at Valparaiso University, left school this past week under somewhat bizarre circumstances. Klein wrote an article for the college's student newspaper, *The Torch*, expounding her desire to kill fellow students.

Klein had numerous visions of entering a classroom and prohibiting students to leave. "I would then just start shooting people," she explained in her article, humorously entitled, "Medication over here, please!"

Klein's peers failed to see the humor of the story and the newspaper's editor later apologized. Conflicting reports from university officials say Klein left of her own accord, but Klein maintains that she was forced to withdraw.

Source: The Chronicle of Higher Education

German Department holds a "Kabarett"

Hana Rubin

German Professor Michael Geisler approaches Jessica Fiedler '96 in a scene from "Kabarett." Sponsored in part by the German Department, the production included several short dramatic scenes from German playwrights.

Brustein criticizes role of politics in artwork

By Aditya Raval

Robert Brustein, artistic director of American Repertory Theater, theater critic for The New Republic and professor of English at Harvard University, spoke to a crowded Dana Auditorium Monday on "The Future of a Democratic Culture." The lecture and following discussion included Brustein's analysis of the National Endowment of the Arts (NEA) and a lively question-and-answer period.

This discussion was sponsored by the Arts Division, the Axinn Fund and Ross and Thomas Commons. Brustein discussed many issues, including NEA funding of "high art" and "low art" and the place of minorities in the arts.

Brustein centered much of his speech around politics and the role Congress plays in governing the NEA. He said that people such as Senator Jesse Helms (R-NC), who helped enact a since-overturned obscenity clause concerning art, were "trying to think for the people" by their actions against funding for the NEA.

Brustein said that people on the right of the political spectrum, like House Speaker Newt Gingrich (R-GA) and Helms are uncomfortable with the NEA because they do not believe that the arts need to survive in this country.

The detriment of the politicization of the NEA, according to Brustein, lies in the current situation, in which "the NEA finds itself courting the voters and Congress" because it relies on politically-appropriated public funds. This kind of "coercive philanthropy," as Brustein called it, puts artists at the mercy of "officious program directors" who have to take artistic direction from politically correct legislators.

The root of the problematic redistribution of NEA funding, said Brustein, lies in the phenomenon of political correctness. Because "multiculturalism" has become such a neon word over the last several years, politicians suddenly feel the need to fund all minority artists who apply, whether their art is high art or "finger-painting." He recalled a time a few years ago when he wrote an unfavorable review of August Wilson's play "The Piano Lesson" and was verbally brow-beaten by critics and theater-goers across the country for not appreciating black art.

"I felt it was a quality play," he said, "but it wasn't as good as it was being evaluated. We have this notion that everybody has to talented at everything. But the fact is that we are all talented but not in the same ways."

Brustein further elaborated that the idea of privatizing the NEA, as some Republican legislators have suggested, could become a bane for the NEA because it would be very difficult for them to raise funds without any public support.

As a corollary to this argument, Brustein described the role of minorities in art today. He expressed his opinion that if the NEA feels it must fund artists in the racial minority simply because they are in that minority, it takes the credibility out of the arts as an American institution. "Self esteem [is] rarely achieved by abandoned standards," he said.

Such highly-regarded African-American authors as Maya Angelou and Toni Morrison, he said, are inaccurately put in the same category as writers of the past because "we need Ralph Ellisons and James Baldwins, and we don't have them at the moment."

Concerning the paucity of funding for the NEA, Brustein reiterated what he had stated in a recent Newsweek article. Current copyright laws state that after 50 years, a work of art goes into the public domain and can no longer collect royalties. He proposed adding 25 years onto that time and allocating all royalties collected during that time to the NEA.

Amanda E. Shoemaker

Mike Thompson of facilites management throws a bottle while sorting through trash in the recycling center.

County decides to accept college refuse

By Bradford Gay

Trash from Middlebury College can once again be deposited in Addison County facilities. Two weeks ago, Addison County officials issued a directive to the college stating that they could not accept any more refuse from the college. County officials inspect every fortieth truck which enters their disposal facility, which two weeks ago happened to be the one containing waste solely from Middlebury College. Regulations require that no more than five percent of the non-recyclable waste be recyclable. Because the college has been warned before about properly separating recyclable and non-recyclable trash, the college's disposal privileges were suspended. Last week Middlebury's truck was tested again and was found to be within the standards set by Addison County. The county has resumed accepting trash from the college.

Despite the resumption of trash disposal in Addison County, questions have been raised concerning the effectiveness of Middlebury's recycling program. College officials have declined to take any action as a result of these events. Norm Cushman, assistant director of maintenance and operations, feels that Middlebury's failure to comply with county regulations was a random occurrence and not in any way a representation of the amount of recyclables that Middlebury actually throws away. He added, "There will be no change in the recycling process at the present time, but we will continue to look at new ways to promote better recycling."

Currently, better recycling habits are promoted through education and activities such as the recent Green Tickets program. According to Todd Champagne '98, an environmental monitor, the recycling program and Environmental Council have "no plans to change the way they are promoting recycling and general environmental awareness."

Green Ticket Winners Announced

The folowing prizes from the Green Ticket contest are still waiting for the people who have a ticket with the corresponding numbers. If you are a winner, call Carly at extension 6244.

Cross-country ski package: 08485

Room cleaning by custodians: 00083

$25 gift certificate to College Store 13305

Boblinks compact disc: 002418

$10 gift certificate to Crest Room: 002416

Your choice of other great prizes: 002358 and 08946

Faculty meeting brings clash over priorities

By Jenna Lane

Discussion about the Committee on Reappointment (COR) dominated the agenda of the March faculty meeting, but not everything was business as usual. Student Government Association (SGA) President Chip Earle made a special guest appearance to assure the faculty of SGA credibility in light of recent turmoil, and one faculty member read an impassioned statement about the college's priorities.

In what one colleague described as "brave," Bruce Peterson of the mathematics and computer science department expressed his concern about college priorities — namely, the placement of Brown Pool above the Science Center on the college's list of construction projects. Peterson compared the relative ease with which athletic projects like the fitness center are approved to the "years of delicate politicking" that preceded the Center for the Arts project.

Peterson specifically referred to the renovation of the Science Center as a project "under a straitjacket that has never been applied" to any other. He described the "substandard facilities, dangerous laboratories and mildewed books" that science faculty and students are forced to use.

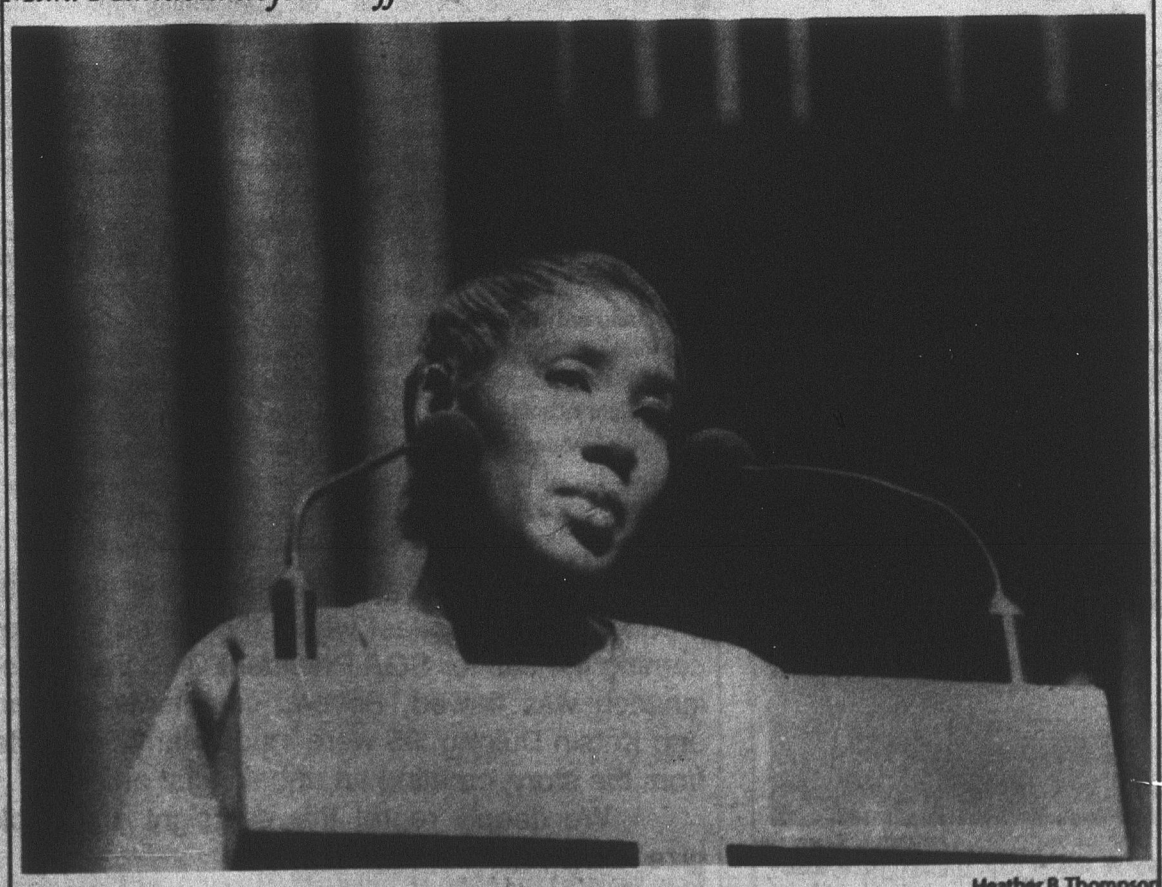
Other professors agreed and added concern about the construction of new social houses. President John McCardell retorted with an encouragement to attend the open meetings about new social houses, which he implied have been poorly attended by faculty in the past.

Upcoming changes in the Rules and Procedures, presented by members of the Faculty Council, would apply to the COR if approved. The revised version of the rules includes a preamble which would clarify the role of the president in tenure review, distinguishing the president's decision from the COR's recommendation. The preamble would also call for written explanations of both to the tenure candidate. The faculty did not decide for or against the changes pending discussion within the divisions.

Members voted 48-26 in favor of an amendment to the calendar, by which the deadline for dropping classes will move from the seventh week of the semester up to the fifth week. Opponents of an earlier drop deadline argued that five weeks was not enough time for students to assess their progress in a course, given the low amount of graded work returned by that point.

Michael Geisler of the Educational Council countered that under the current system, students have too much time and end up missing the deadline. He said the change would "hopefully result in fewer applications for exceptions to the rules" which needlessly burden the Dean of Students' office.

Maki Mandela defends affirmative action to Mead audience



Heather B. Thompson

A capacity audience came to Mead Chapel on Friday night to hear Maki Mandela, social worker and daughter of Nelson Mandela, speak on recent South African political history and current issues such as affirmative action.

Samples to play in April

(continued from page 1)

most likely schedule an additional event in the spring." According to MCAB President Emily Aikenhead '95, the Board is considering a Mardis Gras theme party and concert for late March.

Some MCAB members fear that the comparatively large amount of money allocated to the group may seem unfair in the light of budgets that other groups receive. They are quick to justify their budget as necessary on the grounds that it is MCAB's responsibility to cater to a much broader constituency, one that includes the entire student body. Additionally, the MCAB cosponsors more events than any other group on campus, which allows other groups to hold more ambitious events.

Board members also fear that students do not understand the rising costs of brining big-name bands and performers to campus. The Cranberries, for example, would have cost $25,000, as would the Crash Test Dummies. The Dave Matthews/Big Head Todd double bill runs at $30,000. The Spin Doctors are asking $50,000 for an appearance and Sheryl Crow as much as $25,000.

"We technically could get bands like the Dave Matthews Band, but when they play in Burlington, we get out-bid because UVM is a bigger draw," explained Matthew Hamilton '95, one of MCAB's two vice presidents. "Also, from a budget standpoint, if we spent our whole concert budget on one band it would be the only band you would see at Middlebury all year. Our goal is to promote events for all the interests of a diverse community."

This year, $33,300 of the MCAB budget will be spent on concerts. Events like video DJs, comedians and co-sponsored Commons events swallow another $7,000. Casino Night, designed to attract all types of students, cost $7,000 alone.

Dean of the College Don Wyatt told MCAB members Tuesday that the group's budget will be cut another three percent next year, in addition to the 20 percent it has already been cut over the last five years. What is not changing, however, is the $23,000 flat amount that MCAB has to put back into the pot at the end of the fiscal year to carry over to next year. Some members feel that the carry-over amount should decline at a rate that is proportional to the decrease in overall budget.

Dan Haley '95, MCAB's other vice president, argues that because the group is not allowed to keep any profits during the year even if it meets the $23,000 return requirement, it can be difficult to keep ticket prices down due to the constant need to raise more money. "We like to give as many free events as possible, but it's tough when you also have to worry about putting money back into the pot." Sources on the Comprehensive Fee Committee have suggested that this may be an area to examine next year when the committee discusses the Comprehensive Fee for 1996-1997.

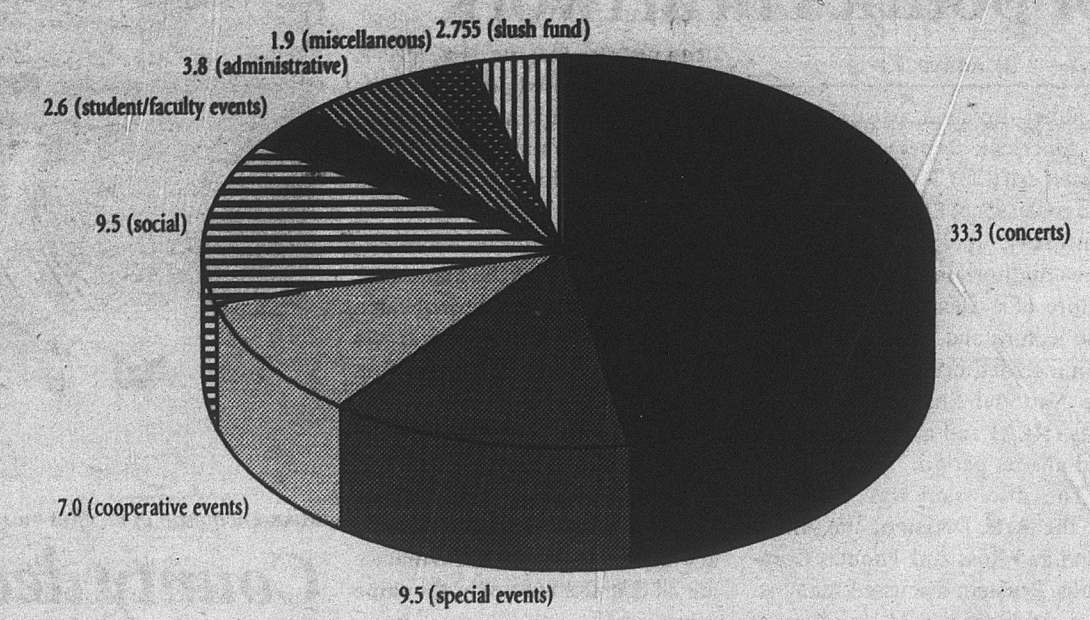
Hamilton corroborated Haley's argument, saying "Other schools charge regular ticket prices, not $10 like we do. When the 10,000 Maniacs came here a couple of years ago, we only charged $10 and we paid $30,000 to get them here. You won't see those kinds of ticket prices at UVM or bigger venues. Our biggest venue, Pepin, seats 1,400. UVM can hold 4,000," he said.

Because Wyatt handed down the decision to cut another three percent from next year's budget, MCAB will be faced with trying to maintain the same level of social activity on campus — including drive-in movies, concerts, speakers, video DJs and theme parties — with less money. Haley concedes that the reasoning behind the refusal to lower the amount that must be put back into the MCAB account — $23,000 — is because the Board rarely even meets that number.

"Other schools simply get more money and get to keep their profits," said Hamilton. "We'd love to be working with a budget of $200,000, but we try to meet the social needs of as many people on campus as we can with what we have."

MCAB 1994-1995 Budget

(all numbers in thousands)



Graph by Shamoil Shipchandler

Total MCAB Budget for 1994-95: $70,370.
This figure includes an estimated $10,000 stipend from the SGA Finance Committee. This graph represents the distribution of the total budget among MCAB committees.

IHC helps plan new house locations

By Will Clark

Emphasizing the conceptual nature of the undertaking, Director of Operations George Whitney, college architect Steve Nelson and representatives from five of six social houses met last week to discuss plans for new social house buildings on the western edge of campus.

According to Zeta Theta Phi President Rob Lawrence '96, the meeting developed after an earlier IHC conference with President McCardell. At the meeting with McCardell, the president offered plans to develop on 55 acres of college property west of the Geonomics Institute and the cemetery. According to Lawrence, "The advantage is that there are no neighbors." The property is bound by college land to the east, Route 125 to the north, one neighbor in the distant south and open property to the west. Because of its remoteness, the frequent noise complaints from college neighbors should be substantially reduced.

For Whitney, the meetings provide a way to learn more about the social houses. "I only know what I've read," said Whitney. Newly elected Inter-House Council [IHC] President Chris Oliviero '96 said the discussions gave IHC "an opportunity to see what they thought would be realistic."

Although plans are in the preliminary stages, two houses, ADP and the ZOO, plan to relocate to the new cite. Lawrence expected to form a committee of non-officer house members to explore housing options. Oliviero said that "It's too early to tell" if other houses would join ADP and ZOO in that location. He further stated that future plans would hinge on discussions with specific houses. Lawrence was more optimistic, saying, "People [from all houses] raised their eyebrows at the meeting with [Nelson]."

One feature of the proposal which Oliviero suggested was unpalatable to the houses was a common social space. As originally envisioned, a barn would be located adjacent to the houses and could be used as a social space. Oliviero said he feared that house identity would be lost under such a system. "Our biggest concern would be about whether we could utilize the space," he said. This is a matter of concern because the space could only be used for parties on Friday and Saturday.

"Under that system [with six houses wanting to use the barn], a house could only have a party every three weeks unless you co-sponsor an event. Co-sponsoring is great, but you want to hold parties in your own house," stated the IHC president. ZOO President Lawrence agreed with Oliviero's assessment, "The biggest thing for the houses is identity. You need to get a different feeling from each house."

An area of primary interest to Whitney is inter-house bonds. "Does proximity to another house [such as neighboring houses Sig Ep and Tavern] lead to sponsoring events together? Does KDR [Kappa Delta Rho] participate or not participate with other houses because of its location?" asked Whitney.

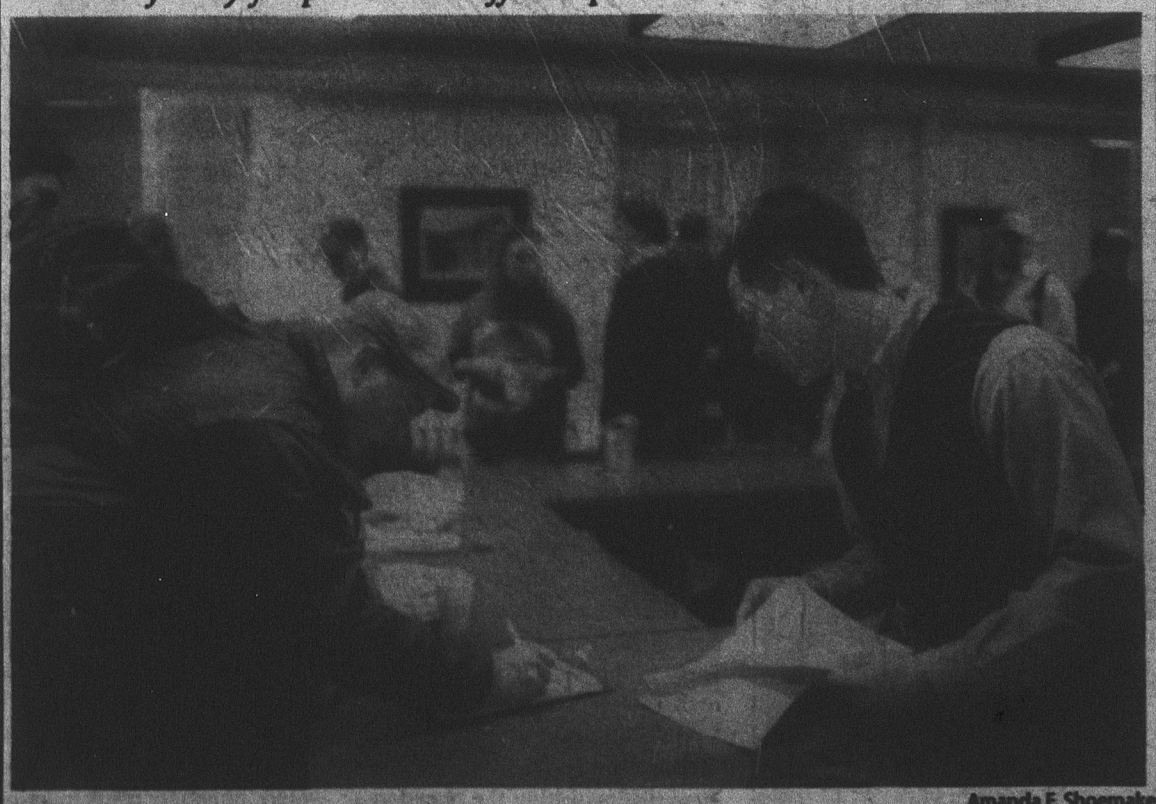
"The houses have spent four years establishing their own identities," said Oliviero when explaining why houses prefer to hold parties in their own buildings rather than a mutual social area. "We don't want to operate like a Commons."

Whitney said that due to the "conceptual nature of the discussions," no timetable or cost estimates are available. Social house representatives were more optimistic.

Lawrence admitted, "There's a big difference between the college being excited about it and getting the town zoning approval and any environmental concerns fixed." Nevertheless, "We would like to have plans in stone by the end of the school year," he said. "That way, we could use the summer to get zoning clearances."

Also discussed at the meetings were issues such as the appearance of the individual houses and room size. Whitney feels that physical issues such as these are secondary, "I think the physical part of how it's completed is easy. The hard part is organizing the concept."

Students jockey for position in off-campus room draw



Amanda E. Shoemaker

Wally Swanson '96 fills out an application to live off-campus during the 1995-96 school year. Hieu Ngyuen, assistant director of residential life, supervised the procedings. A large number of students turned out in hopes of being granted permission to be one of the 60 students allowed to live off- campus.

Apology:

Due to technical difficulties at the end of the production process last week, the lead article concerning the call for SGA President Chip Earle's resignation was flawed. Several comments by Earle and Kritsin Dulong '95 were inadvertantly ommitted from the story, creating an unbalanced article.

We deeply regret this oversight and apologize for its implications.

SGA vote gives Earle confidence heading into tough semester

(continued from page 1)

Earle all year and in doing that I've been dishonest with myself," he said.

Citing the reasons enumerated in the letter and others not mentioned therein, Albertson claimed that Earle's inefficiency had been evident to him all year and that the "inefficiency ... will not go away with time."

Albertson believed that several important issues coming up this spring will necessitate stronger leadership. "This semester will be the most important in regard to student affairs that many will ever see during their time here," elaborated Albertson. These topics include discussions on a possible non-residential commons and the future of Winter Term.

Albertson closed his remarks by relating an incident from the fall. He recalled a question that trustee Churchill Franklin posed to Earle at a dinner September 17. Franklin asked Earle, "'What two or three issues will be most important to students this year?' ... [Earle] gave him no answer," said Albertson. "To my knowledge, he has never articulated an answer to this question. Why did he seek office? What did he want to accomplish?," he mused.

Hamilton, former president of the Inter-House Council (IHC) and former vice president of Kappa Delta Rho (KDR), felt that Earle's presidency had diminished student interest in the SGA. "Last year it was not uncommon for there to be over 100 people at a meeting," he said.

He also pointed out that Earle had not communicated with him regarding social house issues, and he felt that good communication was a necessity for the leader of the student body. Hamilton said that it was customary for past SGA presidents to approach the IHC, not the other way around.

Dan Haley '95, vice president of the Middlebury College Activities Board (MCAB) and a member of Community Council, believed that Earle's record was unacceptable. "This is not about Chip Earle ... it is about results, performance, issues," he said. "It was expected that he would start slow ... but we are convinced that he has not learned on the job ... he cannot perform better than he has ... it is time to make a bold change."

Haley pointed out the recent proposal to the trustees on dining and the impending renovations on McCullough to illustrate his view that Earle is not an effective leader.

"Chip should be given credit for trying, but this is not an office where an 'A for effort' cuts it," said Haley. "This has less to do with what he's done, and more with what he's failed to do," he added.

Mary Robertson, a former member of the executive committee, former vice president of IHC, former vice president of Omega Alpha and a member of Community Council, closed the group's opening remarks by reiterating the need for Earle's resignation and the fact that it was not too late for the SGA to change leaders.

Earle's presentation was guided by an overhead outlining a five-point defense of his presidency. "I have decided to make this confidence/no confidence vote binding," he said as he began his remarks. "If I lose I will resign."

First he stated that his actions in the entire affair were better conducted than those of his adversaries. "I've handled this professionally ... I question their professionalism," he said.

Next he related his concerns over the SGA's credibility. "I am trying to save the integrity and the credibility of the SGA ... Has there been a 'precipitous drop' [during my presidency], as they say? I would say no," he argued. "I put my efforts into construction rather than destruction."

Earle then outlined the options he had when presented with the original letter. He was quick to point out, "I could have done nothing. I set the agenda for SGA meetings, and I could have never brought this up. But I'm essentially passing the decision off to you."

He then moved on, defending himself on each of the grievances against him that were outlined in the letter to *The Campus* last week. While he was criticized for breaking the confidentiality of executive session in Community Council, he pointed out that one of his colleagues had already done so before him. He felt this gave him the opportunity to "run the stop sign" that normally maintains confidentiality.

He also noted that the rules on these situations were unclear. Haley had said earlier that Earle has constantly been confused about Community Council procedure. Fellow council member Robert Hendricks '95 later disputed this, calling Haley's accusation "a crock. It's not like Chip sits through every meeting with a big question mark on his face."

Including his title of SGA president on an article he wrote for Middlebury Magazine that was critical of the Commons was somewhat of "a mistake, I admit," he said.

He attributed his performance during his presentation to the trustees on dining to the fact that Ted Mayer, director of dining services, surprised him. "He broke in[to the presentation] ... I didn't see that coming," said Earle. The Quiet Hours Bill was a problem for him because of the need to serve "different constituencies."

The next portion of Earle's presentation focused on his overlooked accomplishments. These included an earlier proposal on dining and the forum held on the noise problem this fall. He seemed especially proud of the attendance of President McCardell and Trustee Churchill Franklin at a recent meeting.

Finally, Earle emphasized the significance of the role that he was poised to play in the upcoming semester. "I am the man for SGA in the spring term, there isn't any question about it," he said, and closed by restating the devotion he had for the SGA.

The question and answer session that followed was the source of considerable conflict. Questions from students in attendance were directed at Earle and at those who sought his resignation. Both groups got the chance to respond to each question.

One source of contention was Earle's role in the recent proposal he gave to the trustees on dining. During the proposal on dining, Earle was interrupted by Ted Mayer. When Mayer disagreed with him on some figures, Earle did not defend himself or the proposal, in the eyes of some.

Although he believed that Mayer's interjection was unfair, considering they had met and agreed on the numbers before the presentation, he did not confront Mayer because he feared doing so might jeopardize Mayer's job.

According to Haley, Earle told the four co-signers that he did not question Mayer's authority in front of the trustees because "I was just a punk kid from the SGA." Haley took exception to this, saying that it is "essential that the SGA president question authority." Mayer later said that "resignation ... shouldn't be over something like that. Most people have trouble understanding this ... [The error] was like a math problem and they just left out a step [in the presentation]."

Another point of disagreement was Earle's role in the upcoming renovations to McCullough Student Center. Haley found it "problematic that President McCardell had to be the one to call for [the ad hoc committee on the renovations], and not Chip." Greg Friberg '95 intervened and claimed responsibility for the delay in the committee's formation.

The Educational Council has been considering the future of Winter Term, and some doubted Earle's involvement with this key issue. According to Doug Rogers '95, a member of the council, Earle was not completely responsive while efforts were underway to secure a spot on the agenda of a Faculty Meeting. While Earle admitted a lapse, he pointed to efforts he had made since this mistake.

The article that Earle wrote for Middlebury Magazine drew sharp criticism from supporters of the Commons System. While Earle admitted that he did not "support the Commons myself," he regretted the article.

He said that he had intended to write the article from the perspective of a "senior, in the minority [opinion]." This inflamed discussion even more, as Haley said, "This is illustrative of our problem. The president cannot write a letter like that and not understand what it means. [Earle] does not grasp the weight that his name and his office holds."

Another tense moment occurred when one representative asked Earle about the platform that he ran on last spring. After hesitating for several moments, Earle conceded that he "hadn't looked at it in a while."

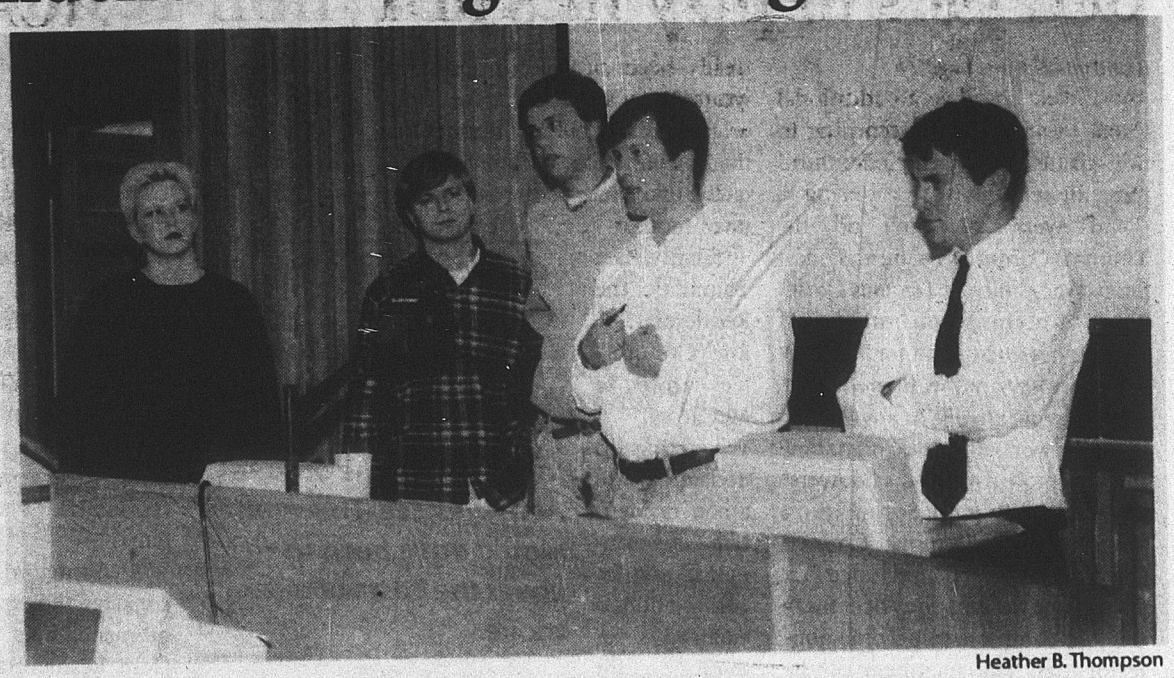
He then claimed that his "platform is evolving all the time," but that he recalled an anti-Commons bias.

Haley felt that this lack of vision was shameful, while Albertson countered with a quote from Earle in last May's *Campus* that read "[The Commons] was a good idea that came at a bad time. They had just gotten rid of fraternities, so it looked like the administration was trying to slide [the Commons] in the back door. I think, though, that if students were polled, it would pass and people would support it."

During closing remarks, Haley conceded that Earle has done his best, but that it was not good enough. Earle said, "I think their argument is a convincing one. What I'm sorry about is that they never came to me before with it."

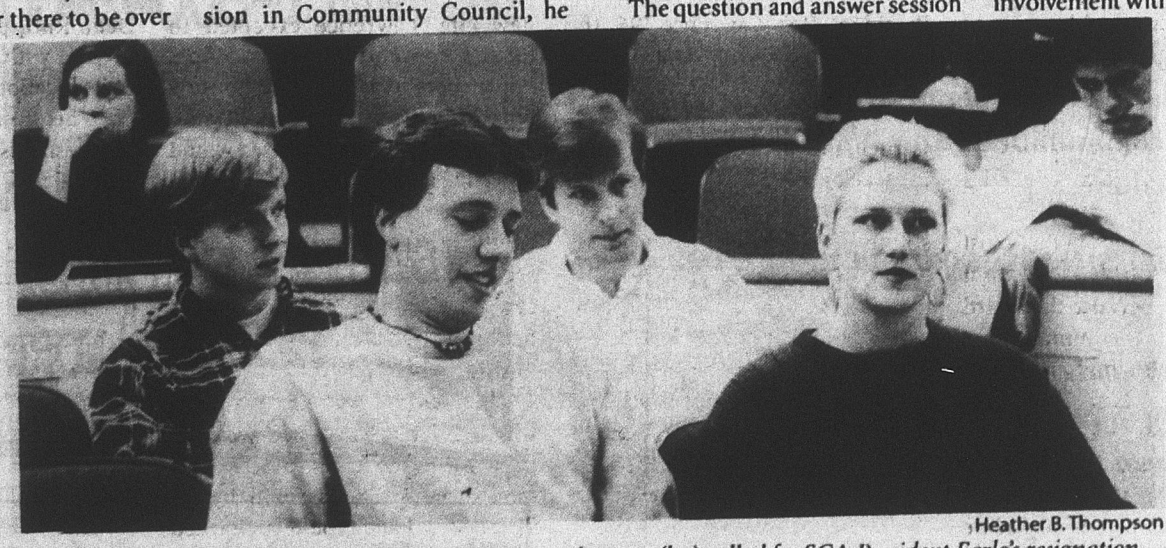
The discussion ended and the assembly was left to decide on the method of voting. After some debate, it was decided that the vote would be done by roll call, rather than by secret ballot. "I think it is important that people know how the representatives vote on this," said Carl Robinson '96, representative for Milliken. As voting progressed, the many affirmative responses stunned a filled Warner Hemicycle that anticipated a closer vote on the heels of such an arduous debate.

Earle was notably relieved and renewed his pledge to serve the SGA to the best of his ability. Robertson, speaking graciously on behalf of her cohorts, wished Earle "good luck in the next semester."



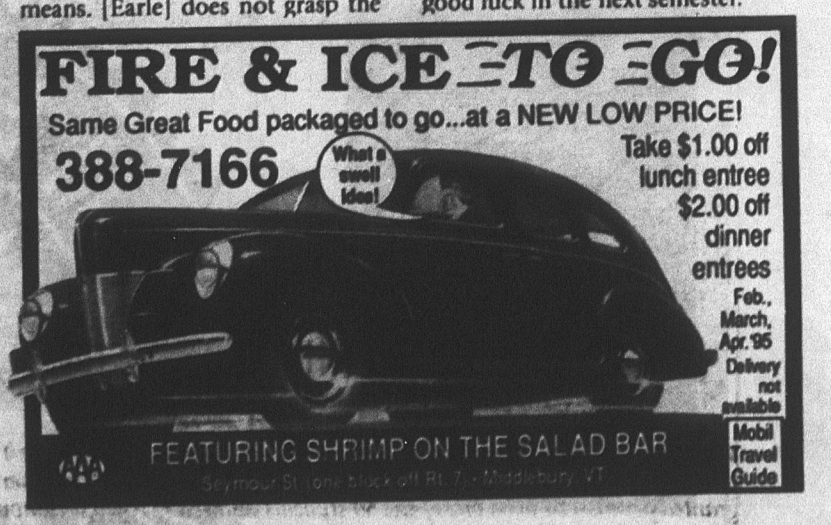
Heather B. Thompson

Seniors Mary Robertson, Jeff Albertson, Matt Hamilton, Dan Haley, and Chip Earle field questions.



Heather B. Thompson

Jeff Albertson, Matt Hamilton, Dan Haley and Mary Robertson (l-r) called for SGA President Earle's resignation.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Committee opposes new, non-residential Thomas Commons

(continued from page 1)

Cardell added, "The notion of a non-residential system seems imminently sensible."

Tai Ayers '97, chair of the Thomas Commons Council, defended the choice of Thomas Commons to become non-residential. "This is not an attempt for Thomas to break away and be different, and it's not saying anyone or anything is better or worse, it's just an attempt to create more diversity," said Ayers.

At the beginning of Spring Term, the Thomas Commons Council drafted a proposal for the needs it anticipated might be necessary were the commons to become non-residential. The members of the council presented the proposal to the Inter-Commons Council (ICC) and then brought it to the Residential Life Committee. With McCardell pressing them for a recommendation, members of the committee deliberated on the Thomas proposal for two three-hour sessions. Making decisions was not easy, according to members of the committee, as there were many differences of opinion and questions. None of the votes were unanimous.

Finally, last Thursday, the Residential Life Committee wrote to McCardell supporting his decision to add a non-residential "commons," and favoring Thomas Commons' requests for space. The proposal suggests an office space and a kitchen for the Commons. The committee also voted that the budget should consist of some college money plus some student activities money, although this idea has encountered vehement opposition by the Student Government Association's Finance Committee.

Last Wednesday, the [SGA Finance] Committee unanimously voted against providing Thomas Commons with money from the Student Activities Fee. This money would have been used to cover the costs of a move.

Last Wednesday, the committee unanimously voted against providing Thomas Commons with money from the Student Activities Fee. This money would have been used to cover the expenses expected to be encountered by any move to a non-residential system.

McCardell will consider the recommendations from Residential Life and Finance Committee as he puts together plans for next year.

The proposal for a non-residential element added to the current residentially-based commons system has raised many issues for debate. A question yet to be resolved is how the new commons would be fundamentally different from a club on campus. Sources on the Finance Committee suggested that this distinction had not yet been made. Because it would essentially become a student-run organization, Thomas Commons would need a satisfactory constitution and would be recognized by the college as a student organization.

Another question raised concerned co-sponsorship. Some Commons insiders have asked how a three-way co-sponsorship of events between a residential commons, a non-residential "commons" and other student groups would be affected.

"I don't think there will be any problems," said Wendy Russell '95, ICC President. "Their focus will be different; it will allow the residentially-based commons to tap into that opportunity." Ayers agreed, saying, "There will be plenty of chances for us to help each other out. We'll be able to give to each other in many ways."

Aside from the specific proposal itself, all involved agree the greatest challenge to adding a non-residential element to the current system lies in accurately and completely informing the general student body. Says ICC President Russell, "We need to present this concept in the right way. Everyone isn't completely aware of what the Commons System is now, so there is going to be a lot of concern for how this concept will affect it."

The entire commons system is slated for a comprehensive review during 1996-97. At that time the college should be able to decide on a particular structure. "It's hard to please everyone," says Ebner. "There are two schools of thought, and we need to adapt and adjust to find what's right for Middlebury."

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Students erred in asking for President's resignation

I thought that I had seen it all. When I served on the SGA two years ago I had seen members brimming with self-importance, speaking to their dissenters as if they just plain didn't know what was good for them. I have sat through the speeches of those by whom the temptation to self-aggrandize and ramble on at length was rarely resisted. I had even spent an entire Sunday evening discussing how we were going to recommend to the faculty that J-term be made much more rigorous. I never thought, however, that I would ever see a handful of students take it upon themselves to tell the SGA President, one of only two members of the SGA actually elected by the entire student body, that it is time for him to just pack up and resign his post.

Perhaps I have been the aloof senior, completely apathetic to the problems of the campus; I must have been so wrapped up in my own pathetic life that I failed to realize how Chip Earle's egregious antics have rocked the foundations of the school. It must be all his fault that Middlebury slipped a few notches in the *U.S. News & World Report* college poll. I find this difficult to digest. To be honest, nothing that has happened this year embarrasses and diminishes the credibility of the SGA more than certain members asking the President to resign in a public forum rather than offering a little constructive criticism and trying to iron out the problem internally. Maybe that's what I would have done, but then I'm not a high-ranking student leader, and if I wrote a letter to *The Campus* asking for the President's resignation, they probably wouldn't even publish it.

...don't even think of resigning just because four or five self-proclaimed 'student leaders' don't like your agenda and are trying to publicly embarrass you. They aren't our President, you are.

Back in the days when I ran unopposed to grab the seat to represent House Group A in the Student Government Association, I looked forward to standing up for the student body in the face of a resilient administration. I soon found nothing but heartbreak as the primary goal of the majority of the members seemed to be impressing Dean Hanson.

I started to sigh with dismay when I realized that the SGA wasn't filled with those who would fight the new regulations that the administration was trying to force down our throats, but instead was filled mainly with, well, the kind of people who run for SGA. And back then we had real issues like off-campus fraternities, where students would be facing suspension for exercising their freedom to associate, and the SGA couldn't pass a single bill for or against them.

This seemed surprising to me, for when I actually asked my constituents what they thought, they were almost always for the students' rights. Someone in my class did a statistics project on it, and it was found that the student body was for students' rights as well, to a degree that was statistically significant. The SGA didn't pass a bill though, and I thought that was embarrassing.

The moral of this story is that upon the announcement that the SGA would recommend nothing about the off-campus issue, then-President Rita Glavin told us how she and Dean Hanson were so proud at how "mature" our debate was and how it was so much better than that "embarrassing" time when we had voted not to outlaw Thursday kegs and how the SGA had gained so much "credibility" with the Community Council. How our credibility seemed to rise when we did not oppose them.

Oh, but how the credibility drops again when our President speaks out against the Commons System. Doesn't he know what's good for us? Isn't it his job to take the faculty's recommendations and make us realize they are correct? Doesn't he realize that "by 'picking a fight' in a public forum, Earle was casting about fabricated threats to stand up against, rather than constructive initiatives to stand up for it"? (This as opposed to "picking a fight" with the SGA President in a public forum and standing up against him by asking him to resign.) How could he have the gall to voice his beliefs and mention that he is also SGA President? I don't find my SGA Representative consulting me too often, and he or she is voicing beliefs at the SGA in my stead every week.

Maybe Chip Earle should have consulted the student body about the appalling noise bill, but we did elect him President. Jeff Albertson, Mary Robertson, Matt Hamilton, Dan Haley and Wendy Russell have asked him to resign without consulting anybody, and I'm pretty sure they don't represent me in any way. (If they do, they haven't done a very good job of letting me know.)

Chip, if people offer you constructive criticism about how to do your job, listen to them; but don't even think of resigning just because four or five self-proclaimed "student leaders" don't like your agenda and are trying to publicly embarrass you. They aren't our President, you are.

Tyler Newton '95
Former Student
Representative,
House Group A
Former Varsity Golf
Team Member
Roommate of the Co-Chair of
the Senior Gift Committee

Seniors pay respectful tribute to CHiPs

Back in the days of innocence, when Pokey was merely a clay horse and when social studies was our most difficult subject, one guiding beacon steered us through fastidious times. This cultural symbol eased the stress of our tumultuous pubescent pasts; it was our snorkel in a sea of bile and our intellectual sustenance in our respective dearths of knowledge. It provided us with a cornucopia of information on how to be hip, relaxed and astoundingly handsome during the image upheavals which marked the late '70s. Thus, the last issue of *The Campus* was distressing, no, revolting, to all of us. In short, we're not gonna sit around and let you guys bad mouth CHiPs.

CHiPs is to television what North Korea is to Communism. It has been and continues to be the impetus for many great ideas, both within and without the realm of entertainment. Indeed, many of today's seemingly effulgent Hollywood moments are mere reflections of past CHiPs episodes. For example, "Use the force" was first said by Ponch's mom in Spanish at the tail end of episode 168 (Poncharello and the King Cobra episode). And remember the episode where Jon got the new female partner? That stunning young vixen cast the mold for modern day legend V.I. Warshawski. Of course, the analogies to the Joy Luck Club and Color Purple are too numerous and obvious to list.

Most important, however, is the fact that CHiPs is ingrained in the American psyche. It is as fundamental a drive as aggression and the urge to reproduce. Somewhere in our collective unconsciousness, we all aspire to cruise the highways of Southern California, providing justice and good looks for all. You show me a red-blooded, pie eating American who doesn't like CHiPs, and we'll show you a philistine slug that can breakdance.

As a matter of fact, CHiPs has provided us six rogues with a code of lawfulness. Sure, we have been mentioned in the security report a couple of times this year. However, much empirical analysis has proven that our behavior is significantly more benevolent than that of the average Middlebury student who neglects to watch CHiPs. Three of us have even done community service. We are good guys. Chicks dig us 'cause CHiPs taught us all to be polite.

And as we all know so well, our beloved Jon is more than just a paragon of virtue and good clean fun. He is a Middlebury alumnus. More likely than not, Jon spent his pre-Estrada days pondering the fatalism of Beckett and the absurdity of Camus. Rumor has it that his senior thesis work concerned the subtle intertwining of Kafkaesque thought and the social institutions which all Americans adhere to. He was an intellectual giant. Yet, he still finds time to relate to the common man, as is evident in his witty interactions with the CHiPs mechanic.

We don't know how you plan on getting rid of CHiPs. We've already called the Adelphia cable company. And they assured us that CHiPs would continue to rule the kingdom of late night television. However, we still live in fear.

We are common acquaintances with the editor of *The Campus*. And ne'r would this fine gentleman print Enquireresque tidbits of trash in his ever-improving publication. Hence, we know that the threat is indeed a real one. We ask those who wish to rid us of our CHiPs to please reconsider. Despite the seeming complexity of this debate, a peaceful solution can and must exist. Because, quite frankly, if backed into a corner, we may be forced to seek the most unconventional and unsound sockdolager ever. It means that much. Without these two magnanimous men with the triple phat sunglasses in our daily routines, we shall plummet towards the nadir of our existence. We will become losers.

This can not happen. In the immortal words of Kenny Loggins, removing CHiPs from the television airwaves would thrust us on a "Highway to the danger zone," a stretch of tar which even our venerable, helmet-clad heroes could not police.

So here's to the great country of America, the freedom of Democracy and the California Highway Patrol (CHiPs). As for the Gang of Four who wish to rid us of our cultural essence, please try to see things from our perspective. After all, there is nothing "Common" about CHiPs.

And by the way, we've seen all the episodes and have found no mention of this Earle character anywhere. Who is he?

Jeff Arkin '95
Mark Ellerbrook '95
Keith Arnold '95
Cory Fischer '95
John Boris '95
Josh Schiffer '95

President looks to future

I would like to thank everyone who attended the SGA meeting this week. It is my hope that this incident will serve to bring not only the SGA closer together as an organization, but the entire college community. The meeting was productive in that it allowed everyone the chance to air his/her grievances. However, now is the time to put all of our past differences behind us and concentrate our efforts on the issues which lay ahead.

The next few months are going to be a busy time for the SGA. We look forward to working with everyone on issues such as the non-residential Commons, the faculty vote on Winter term, the future of dining and the renovations to Proctor, McCullough and Old Chapel. On behalf of the SGA, I welcome all students, faculty and staff who feel strongly about these issues to attend the weekly SGA meetings (Sunday, 7 p.m. in Warner Hemicycle). In closing, I have been proud to serve as your SGA President this year, and I look forward to the challenges that the remainder of the spring is bound to offer.

Chip Earle '95
SGA President

THE DOGMA KENNEL
STEVEN SIDORE

I've spent a lot of time recently thinking about what we can and should expect from Middlebury students, both during their tenure here in Vermont and after their release into the great big world. It's not such a big surprise that these issues are on my mind: We've just gone through a traumatic confidence vote on our student leader, even as malicious misbehavior (dorm damage) seems beyond our control. Furthermore, I am close to graduation and have the vision in mind of my many recently-graduated friends who are still struggling to find their new place after 16 years of academics. There are lots of pressures on Middlebury students beyond academics, and I am curious about which are fair.

The idea of college students as model citizens for the future is not new. Middlebury's founders carved this college on the bedrock of theological teaching, training college students to be the moral base of the community. Fair or unfair, students were exempted from the Vietnam war, under the presumption that studies build better citizens, a priority higher than even defense of country.

Yet in our generation's America, there is an increasing refusal to take up the gauntlet of responsibility. This is the time of ME, of the nihilistic belief that whatever is within our reach, even if extended by our cherished ones under the best of pretenses, is ours for the taking. Expediency is king. As Charles Barkley proclaims in his commercials, the millions he gets paid doesn't mean he has to be a role model.

And he's right. All you have to do is act within the lines, and you're legal, no matter what you're thinking. Heck, in our world here at Middlebury, you don't even have to do that. Beer, drugs, destruction — self or external — are all just fine, even sanctioned by our administration, just as long as you don't break the Golden Rule: Don't get caught.

So where does that leave us, the students here at the college? What is fair to expect of us? Absolutely nothing. For the most part, our parents or the gifts of rich alumnae have brought us here, and,to be honest, that is their choice. We do owe them nothing. Even in the rare cases where we have paid for our college education completely on our own, we owe ourselves nothing for it. We are here to be educated, both academically and about each other. That is a wonderful, honorable goal, but it is no more than that. I thank you all for the wonderful education I have received here, but it is a gift, not a barter, and gifts are to be used by the recipient as she so wishes. If it were a trade, and we

(continued on page 11)

Editorial

The Aftermath

For any observer of campus news, the SGA is a mainstay. It is ever-present, going about its business every Sunday night. Every once in a while, however, something upsets the routine and what is normally a cozy gathering of dedicated students turns into a circus.

This past week, SGA turned into a tumultuous arena, and the main attraction was a drive to unseat the president of the whole shebang. Now that the president has been granted his vote of confidence and the dust has cleared, it is time to assess the aftermath of Sunday's spectacle.

The meeting was a farce. No parties were well-served by the debate and all parties left damaged. This includes Earle and his accusers as well as the organization sponsoring the meeting, the SGA.

Despite the parliamentary victory, Earle was unable to satisfy nagging doubts about his ability to perform. His accusers failed to counter completely the suggestions that they waited too long to pounce on an embattled leader. Moreover, the lopsided outcome was not illustrative of the spirited debate, which leads one to consider whether the roll-call vote may have had something to do with the result. That is no excuse for failing to take a stand against mediocrity from either side.

In the end, it is the SGA which suffered the most damage. The members who listened attentively and attacked the arguments of both sides were far outnumbered by those who chose one side or the other blindly. For a deliberative body, there did not seem to be much deliberation.

This is not the first time this year that the SGA has failed to deliberate adequately on an issue. It must now reexamine the Quiet Hours proposal it unanimously approved in November. When the issue was first visited, it passed the assembly uncontested. Now that members are being forced to poll their constituents, they may find students are not unanimous in their enthusiasm for mandatory quiet hours on campus.

Earle won a decisive victory within his own assembly. In the eyes of the college community, however, it is likely that that he has come out in worse shape than he was before. The biggest obstacle he will have to face is a core of people who are clearly not aligned with him. Jeff Albertson is a student government power broker and Earle will have difficulty adapting to the hostile treasurer. All parties involved tacitly agreed that Albertson was responsible for a large part of the president's success. Earle never denied that Albertson covered for him a great deal in the past. That is a luxury no longer afforded to President Earle.

In addition to Albertson, Earle will probably lack full cooperation from members of the IHC, ICC, MCAB, Educational Council and Community Council. Earle has shaken the confidence of a great many people. Does this mean that student leaders will carry a vendetta against Earle that supercedes the interests of constituents? Probably not, but there is a big difference between a fine-tuned bureaucratic machine and a reluctant administration. Earle's inability to make senior executive council members feel comfortable about turning to him, not to mention college administrators, suggests he may become nothing more than a figurehead presiding over a hierarchy of non-doers.

Midway through Sunday's debate, Earle conceded that he had not looked at his agenda in a while. In fact, he could not accurately recount the platform on which he was elected by the student body less than a year ago. Albertson has said that he will no longer be a resource for Earle to turn to on policy questions. Alternatively, Earle has optimistically recognized that this Sunday's meeting is the first one of the rest of his term.

This leads to the ultimate question: Is it too late to salvage the alleged lost credibility? And if so, does the present assembly have enough ambition to tackle the tough issues which will dominate the agenda this spring?

The Middlebury Campus

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Environmental leader requests input

President McCardell has declared that in the coming years Middlebury will become the leader in environmental studies and awareness among liberal arts institutions. In his "Vision for Middlebury College," printed in the fall 1994 Middlebury Magazine, he cited ES as a "curricular peak" of "Middlebury's presidential range." He stated that the college will soon be known as "the environmentally aware campus."

But how will Middlebury realize this vision?

To address this question McCardell has created the Committee on the Environment. The committee is chaired by professor Steve Trombulak and consists of faculty with interests in ES, college staff, a representative of Middlebury alumni and me. I am writing you to drop a few seeds in those clouded, over-studied brains of yours — asking for your input in looking toward the environmental future of Middlebury.

1. How can we strengthen the Environmental Studies Program?

Last February the ES Steering Committee submitted a report to Dean of the Faculty Ron Liebowitz entitled "Environmental Studies at Middlebury College: Current Problems and Future Opportunities." In the report, the committee highlighted the strengths and weaknesses of the ES Program and provided pages of changes and additions that could be made to strengthen it.

Since the report was submitted, the administration has been responsive on several counts. The Farrell House has been dedicated as the new Environmental Studies Center. Toni Best has been hired as a part-time secretary for the program. The environmental geology position, currently held by Grant Meyer, has been converted to tenure-track. For the first time, the ES department has been able to offer two sections of Natural Science and the Environment (ES 112) and Visions of Nature (EL/AL 113), so that ES majors can enjoy smaller class sizes and a lab component of ES 112.

Last fall the Steering Commit-

(continued on page 11)

CHIPPING IN

by BPerry

"Accompanying the *Campus* letter was one addressed to Earle granting him the opportunity to resign the next day and use a different reason than the fact that it was being called for."
"Well Chip, as I see it you've got two choices. Either you throw yourself in the fire and we'll just call it an accident, or I'm going to have to tell everyone all about what a bad boy you've been, and then push you in myself."

Pernicious 'Pony' should resign post

We the undersigned are asking for the immediate resignation of Rodney Rothman as writer of *The Campus* column "My Little Pony." In a cryptic, clandestine phone mail message left at 3 a.m. this past Saturday night, we gave Rothman the chance to resign quietly and without embarrassment by citing severe mental health problems or life-threatening illness.

In typical Rothman fashion he flipped us the bird next time he saw us in the Proctor drinks area. We are now forced to reveal his incompetence and evil-doing as columnist.

First, his column is addictive. It becomes all you live for, and the only thing you read in that otherwise worthy publication, *The Campus*. Thursday morning the craving and shakes begin. Starting at 1 p.m. all you do is hang out in the mail room and annoy David LaRose about when *The Campus* will be delivered. And if by chance it is not delivered, you go crazy; you break things; you end up at the Parton hospital emergency room getting shots of morphine (actually this last is not so bad). We do not think addiction of any kind should be fomented on campus.

The second Rothman problem is that his screwed-up sense of humor can be disconcerting. You know, it's like a bad trip sometimes.

The third and worst Rothman problem is that he has shown extreme incompetence in picking pictures for his column. They say the pictures have evil subliminal messages.

We don't know about that, but we do know that putting a picture of beer on tap is a bad call. It can only encourage rabid under-age drinking.

The trustees have been notified. Drinking is a privilege reserved only for those of us over 21. You freshman should drink lemonade.

But to get to the point: We call upon the student body to go mob-like to Rothman's plush abode in Chipman park with torches and force him to resign.

"My Little Pony" is an important vehicle for student discussion and its writer has great clout with Dean Hanson, J. McCardell and the trustees. Considering such importance, that madman Rodney Rothman cannot be allowed to hold the "Pony" office. By the way, our vicious claims that Rothman is an incompetent fool should in no way be taken as a personal attack on Rodney. Deep down he's a good guy.

Claudio Salas '95
Forest West Dweller

Claudio Damian Salas '95
Presidential Candidate 2000

C. D. Salas, III. '95
Special Adviser to Chip Earle and Dan Haley

Minority students accepted because of qualifications, not quotas

Two weekends ago, my heart was filled with love and anger. That weekend was the Sixth Annual Middlebury Alumni of Color Weekend. Many alumni of color came from all over the country to share their experiences during and after their Middlebury College careers. These alumni offered suggestions on current issues for students of color as well as their insights on the job market after Middlebury. In all it was a wonderful weekend. It was a time for sharing, reminiscing and love for current and former students of color.

However, as I started, my heart was filled with anger. How ironic that Molly Reilly's article on affirmative action (what she calls reverse discrimination) came out on the very same weekend. I can tell everyone on this campus that I am sick and tired of white people telling me and other students of color that we are not good enough to be Middlebury College students. One particular passage in the Reilly article was: "When students are accepted to a school on the basis of race and not intellect, the chances are higher that they will receive lower grades or not even graduate." This is an interesting statement because this weekend, I met alumni of color who were lawyers, doctors, architects, teachers, financial analysts and many other professions. These people came here and graduated and are doing very well. Let me tell you this: Every brother and sister in Middlebury College is capable of doing the work here. You do not have to be a genius to do the work they have here. You only have to work hard, but students of color have to work twice as hard. Because in addition to being full time students, we have to take time out of our busy academic schedules to teach racial tolerance and write articles fighting ignorance and racism like that which is present in the Reilly article.

There are two kinds of racists. There are those who will never call you a nigger or a spik to your face but will among his or her friends. Being from the South, I have encountered the other kind of racists, those who will come out and tell you that you are a stupid nigger or spik who does not belong in a particular place because of your race. Although Ms. Reilly is quite brave in expressing her opinion, she is still the second kind of racist. Whoever else agrees with the Reilly article is the first kind of racist.

I say that you are a racist because with all the different reasons why people are accepted into Middlebury College, you chose to focus your attention on "minorities." Students are accepted who are athletes, Vermonters, international students, musicians, from different regions of the country, from rural areas and yes, who are African American, Latino and women. All of these "diverse" groups of people are capable students; however, the majority of them are still white. You chose to say that "minorities" are admitted on the basis of race and not intellect.

I recently completed my senior thesis in which I discussed the experiences and issues facing African Americans in private schools. One issue I discuss is racism and ignorance. Just as Reilly has written that "minorities" are admitted to fill quotas and are therefore not smart enough to do the work, many of the students I interviewed stated that they had encountered white students who told them that they were only admitted into Middlebury to fill a quota. With the way this country and, in particular, this country's education system is set up, you better believe that every brother and sister in this school has worked his or her ass off to be here and succeed here. The proof is that we are graduating and succeeding, and the alumni of color are coming back to help share in their success.

Now, let's discuss affirmative action. First of all, affirmative action came about because historically discriminated groups were not receiving equal acceptance into jobs and schools regardless of their intelligence. Affirmative action works toward equality in the job market as well as in schools. For example, if there are two equal applicants for a job but one is black and one is white, under affirmative action the job should go to the black person. This is because without affirmative action, underqualified white people would get jobs before qualified people of color simply because they were white.

...without affirmative action, underqualified white people would get jobs before qualified people of color simply because they were white.

But now Reilly states, "However, many students who attend college will eventually encounter some degree of bias. The irony is, this bias is not in favor of Caucasian groups, but against them." In other words, Reilly is saying that white people are not the prime beneficiaries of what this country has to offer anymore. But, look around you. Take a stroll across the Middlebury college campus and tell me what you see. You will see a campus with a total population of close to 2000 with an African American and Latino population of less than 100.

This country and Middlebury College are set up for white students to succeed. And if it were not for previous alumni of color who fought the administration and risked failing exams so that we could have equality, the number would not be that high. White students have nothing to worry about simply because the country and this school are still primarily set up for their success.

Also, if any group is benefiting from affirmative action it is white women. I am discussing white women here because the author is a white woman. White women as a group have been historically discriminated against by a dominant white male society. However, white women have a dual luxury that black and Latino students do not have. Not only do you benefit from affirmative action, but you generally have the benefit of having a strong financial backing from your families, thus making your transition to and your lives in college easier than for students of color. But, because you let your whiteness overshadow your womanhood, you feel comfortable with your assumed superiority over people of color instead of feeling solidarity as a discriminated group.

Ms. Reilly, I am a black man. I am a fourth-year senior who will be graduating in May. I have worked very hard to get where I am. I have been dealing with white people like you who have constantly tried to tell me that I am not as smart as white people ever since I was six years old when I first started private school. Last fall, I took five courses including my senior thesis and excelled in all of them. In addition, I worked three jobs while maintaining a long-distance relationship. This spring I am taking five classes, working three jobs, maintaining a long-distance relationship and playing baseball. Don't tell me that I should not be here because of my lack of intellect.

Chad Cooper '95

Eliminate all forms of discrimination

Like Osamede Iyahen, I am impressed with the courage Molly Reilly has shown by voicing opinions concerning affirmative action that may not be endorsed by the liberal majority at Middlebury. Mr. Iyahen, however, finds himself "surprised at the level of ignorance and lack of thought process" behind the article. His argument, though, is based on a gross misinterpretation of Ms. Reilly's statements and, more importantly, of the purpose of affirmative action.

The policies that are collectively referred to as affirmative action, implemented largely to combat both the preferential "old boy" network of white males as well as more overt discrimination, have increasingly come under fire in recent years. This is not just by white males such as myself. In the 1996 elections, Californian voters will decide whether ethnicity or gender (as Mr. Iyahen repeatedly reminds) can be legally used "as a criterion for either discriminating against, or granting preferential treatment to, any individual or group." It is highly ironic that 35 years ago, if we were to vote on an almost identically worded proposition, it would be to end "colored only" water fountains and other condemnable practices. Today we have, in affirmative action, a philosophically similar (albeit not as crippling or abominable) form of discrimination that we as voters might soon be asked to affirm or condemn.

The implementation of a quota system in municipal hiring and college admissions, one of the most high-profile results of affirmative action, undeniably led in some instances to a lowering of standards. Ms. Reilly makes a similar statement, which Mr. Iyahen finds to be a "gross and offensive generalization." Typical of the hyper-politically correct environment here at Middlebury, people do not really listen to what is being said; if a statement can somehow be twisted into a discriminatory comment it will be. I do not mean, nor I assume did Ms. Reilly, that the only way minorities can possibly get into Middlebury is through preferential treatment. It is an upsetting fact, however, that some do, just as it is equally infuriating that many of my white counterparts (this is not to imply that only whites make significant monetary contributions to the college) are here simply because their last names can also be found on some very large check made out to the alumni gift campaign. Perhaps the most damaging aspect of this is the self-doubt such preferential treatment frequently breeds in a person, whether or not such doubt is warranted.

Finally, Mr. Iyahen suggests that affirmative action is necessary because the "self-evident" truth that "all men are created equal" has not yet been realized. He says that "steps have to be taken to get everyone on the same social and economic level." Thomas Jefferson's words, however, were not meant to outline a Marxist society in which people's needs and abilities interact to create a community in which all are relegated to the same social and economic level. Rather, he set out to frame a government in which all men (rightly amended, if not then in spirit, to include women and minorities) are equal in the opportunity to succeed, not necessarily in the success they achieve. It is Mr. Iyahen's view of affirmative action as a tool to be used to insure economic, or academic, homogeneity between the races, rather than equality of opportunity, that has led such policies away from their original goals. One of the primary contributing factors to the failure of affirmative action is this belief that, rather than leveling the playing field, we should insure a tie at the end of every game.

It is highly ironic that 35 years ago, if we were to vote on an almost identically worded proposition, it would be to end 'colored only' water fountains and other condemnable practices.

Any policy which mandates preferential treatment of one group over another based on gender or ethnicity is by definition discriminatory. Whether the recipients are eminently qualified or not, such policies inevitably raise the question of whether they get the job because they are qualified and women or minorities; or simply because they are women or minorities.

Such doubt merely provides those who would discriminate with another excuse to criticize a particular gender or ethnicity. Affirmative action is the easy way out for American society — by creating a system that grants women and minorities preferential treatment, we can avoid the much harder task of eradicating those attitudes and practices that continue to oppress such groups. We must instead take a harder stance against businesses and other institutions that are shown to discriminate against women and minorities.

We must provide economically disadvantaged school systems, which in many areas are attended predominantly by minorities, with the same level of funding granted to the wealthiest, often predominantly white, school systems.

Such a society in which color and gender have no bearing on the opportunity to succeed, however, can never be achieved as long as we pursue policies which simply combat one form of discrimination with another.

Gordon McGrath '95

Reilly expresses concern over response to article

The affirmative action saga continues, but I am not writing to attack, change my position or make excuses. Rather, I wish to explain a few points that may have been misconstrued or misunderstood, as well as say a few things that perhaps should have been said before.

Before submitting the article, I contemplated the reactions that I might receive. However, I did not expect what I did receive, which was very little. A few people questioned or commented on my position, but only two minorities approached me personally. One of them informed me, however, that my name was being bashed and many had donned me a racist. Admittedly, I have had limited experiences with minorities, not by choice, but by circumstance. I also realize that I could never understand the oppression that minorities face. I did and continue to hope that those who believe that I am truly "ignorant" would challenge my opinion in person, where I could explain myself, instead of insult me as a person behind my back, where I am defenseless. Certainly it is easier to complain about something than to actually take action against it, but not confronting ignorance is not only unfair to the person which supposedly possesses it, but also to society, especially if we ever expect it to be enlightened and color-blind.

From the responses that I did receive, it seems apparent that many readers have assumed that I am commenting on minorities at Middlebury. Actually, Middlebury was never mentioned in the article, and there is a reasonable explanation for that. The article was written before I even decided to attend Middlebury and has no personal basis.

I do not believe, as one respondent asserted that I did, that "every student of color gets accepted to college on the basis of affirmative action." I did state however, that it is detrimental if someone is accepted for reasons other than personal qualifications, such as race or

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Atmosphere of ignorance fosters racial divisions

I am not a person who frequently reads *The Campus*, but on the last Friday of the fall semester, a number of students had me read an article written on issues of race on the campus, knowing that I would respond to the article and hoping I could articulate the feelings boiling within them when they read this article. The article, titled "Issues of race and difference spawn discussion," cited statistics and stated opinions which a great deal of black and Latino students had problems with.

One of the first things the article did was to brush off a racial confrontation as a possible "misunderstanding." However, incidents like this cannot simply be brushed off as such and should never be taken lightly. Also, students who fall victim to racial slurs should not be made to feel "paranoid" or as if they "have a chip on their shoulder." Racial slurs are serious, because their intent is to dehumanize a people or promote the superiority of one race at the expense of another. Sorry to disappoint, but the problem of students of color being harassed on this campus are not few and far between, but happen quite often. How long will this problem continue to be ignored or pushed to the side as insignificant?

My biggest problem with the article, however, was on the discussion of social houses and the "self-segregation" of students of color at the Bi-Cultural Center. First, I would like to address the ignorant, asinine and typical comments of Mr. Matthew Hamilton. Mr. Hamilton, a college senior, has yet to understand the definition of segregation. Segregation is a situation in which "inferior people" are placed in a certain environment or situation by their "superiors." I would like to emphasize that no one is superior to any black or Latino anywhere!

Now, if the students chose to separate themselves, then that is the choice which a student makes. And don't misread this, the purpose of the Center is not to separate, but to educate. It's impossible for a student of color to separate himself on a campus which is 80 percent white. We interact with white people every day! We have no choice. And for some of us, when it's time to relax and hang out, we want to be around those who are like us. And the most liberal white person cannot deny that there are significant cultural differences between the races. The humor a white person finds in Beavis and Butthead, we find in Def Jam. What I'm trying to say is that when I relax and chill, I want to be with those who understand where I'm coming from. I don't like having to interpret every other word or sentence which comes out of my mouth.

As far as the location of the center, I'm tired of people using that as an excuse not to come down. A majority of the white students on campus have the strength to walk up to Grand Union. Why not the center? And correct me if I'm wrong, but none of the social houses that people congregate in are near the center of the campus. Oh, Tavern and Sig Ep are not that far when you want to get drunk, right? And, Mr. Hamilton, you are correct, the center is "for one group of students." It's for the educated kind, the group of students who want to learn about different cultures. Sorry if the center doesn't appeal to ignoramuses such as yourself.

A big contributor to the lack of students of color having interest in the social houses has to deal with different perceptions of the role and function of social houses. For most black and Latino students, a party is not a place to stand around and talk and get drunk. For most of us, a party is a place to dance and have fun. Black social houses are usually seen (though not always) as a symbol of black strength and a celebration of black beauty. And most white people do not have the slightest clue what a step-show is and don't have the rhythm to pull one off anyway!

Also, all students of color should stay in touch with their heritage. What's wrong with that? Black people are the only people in the world who are not only asked, but expected to forget and overlook the horrors and atrocities perpetrated against our people throughout history. We are the only race of people who are asked to compromise ourselves and are seen as threatening when we celebrate our culture and take pride in our race. No one says to Jews, "The holocaust was years ago, get over it!" No, as a matter of fact there is a holocaust remembrance day and a federal museum in Washington, D.C. dedicated for this purpose. But the greatest crime in the history of humanity is ignored time and time again. Where is the remembrance day for the 60 million black men, women and children who lost their lives during the slave trade? Or the current 30 million black Americans who have lost their identity and sense of self? Why is it that the government is still debating (and has been for the last four years) about whether an African American history museum should be opened or not?

However, my biggest problem with the comment about students of color who want to join the social houses and then get "pressure from their peers about forgetting their roots and things like that," is that most of those students do not have a significant amount of contact with the students of color on this campus to get such slack. Most of those students tend to find themselves surrounded by white people anyway and don't care what people say about them.Personally, I'm glad the article was printed. The more verbally ignorant white people are, the more my own people will have to wake up from their sleep to see what is going on. To those good-hearted and innocent white people out there, I hope that you won't let ignorants like Mr. Hamilton represent or speak on behalf of your race in the future. And to all my beautiful, strong and intelligent brothers and sisters, stay proud of who you are, and stay strong in the struggle! Peace out!

Terence Bradford '96

Lee proposes list of candidates for '96

Walk in Balance
An Environmental Perspective from Alex Lee

The following is a proposal — whimsical, but deadly serious — for the elections of 1996. It is very possible to change things from the outside.

David Brower and Dave Foreman are two current leaders in this approach. We need such modern day Thomas Paines. Thomas Jefferson might even suggest a revolution at this point. Robert Frost would surely advocate a "semi-revolution." However, there is also a system that will theoretically serve the purposes of planet-lovers: our government.

Therefore, in the 1996 elections, we must make sure that we are the most participatory democracy in the world. Millions of dollars should be spent by non-profits on getting people to vote. Abstract pleas that we "make a difference at the polls" are not effective. There is no reason to think that things will be any different. Our only hope is an inspirational concrete plan. What follows is a proposal for an administration that could make a difference, provided that decent people were elected to Congress, too.

In 1996, we should elect Ralph Nader as President of the United States. Nader has limited experience running a campaign. He can work along bipartisan lines. The health of my grandchildren seems to weigh heavily on his mind. People respect him. He could appeal to and represent a greater cross-section of Americans than out-of-touch Jerry Brown or dictatorial Ross Perot, than slick Bill Clinton or stuffy George Bush, than plodding Bob Dole or liberal Dick Gephardt.

We should elect him with a mandate to fill his cabinet with the following group of people. Hopefully, these people and Mr. Nader himself will consent when they see the strength of such an administration. Hopefully they will leave their plows for a brief moment to serve the country.

For Wendell Berry, who I suggest would be the best Secretary of Agriculture this country has ever had, leaving his plow would not be a metaphor. Berry is a visionary farmer with powerful communication skills and he could appeal as much to the people who elected Newt Gingrich as he could to the readers of The Utne Reader or Mother Jones. Would he appeal to the executives of agribusiness? Perhaps not, but democracy is about majority.

With Winona LaDuke heading the Department of the Interior, the Bureau of Indian Affairs could have a Great Red Mother in Washington for the first time in history. Her excellence and experience in environmental work and community action stand her in good stead. Manley Begay, a respected and affable Harvard professor in charge of the Native American Studies program there, would make a popular and diligent Bureau of Indian Affairs superintendent. Bill McKibben would do a fine job as Superintendent of the Park Service, making sure the "end of nature" does not arrive. Terry Tempest Williams, whose pen is as good as her naturalism and understanding of the West, would have wise policies to suggest as the Bureau of Land Management's leader.

Though I am not an expert on foreign affairs, it seems like Jimmy Carter has kept us out of a lot of wars this year. Maybe we could give this aging peanut farmer a chance as Secretary of State. Would he accept? Would Al Gore accept if the American people decided to give him another chance — this time as head of the Environmental Protection Agency? If not, Nader should put Edward O. Wilson at this post. And either way, wouldn't it be nice to see this post elevated to cabinet status?

Amory Lovins is an unavoidable next choice for Secretary of Energy. This man has too many good ideas,and knows too much, not to fill this position. Though it would be horrible to pull him away from the Rocky Mountain Institute, we and Ralph Nader should request that he leave his plow for a lively episode. There is, however, the chance that this position will be obsolete in 1996.

As Housing and Urban Development Secretary, Chuck Matthai comes to mind. A disciple of Dorothy Day and a saint of his own accord, he is not as well-known as the others I have mentioned. This, perhaps, is because many environmentalists and conservationists have ignored the problem of cities. Mr. Matthai, however, has wonderful suggestions about community land trusts, works well at the grassroots level and is a good administrator.

Many environmentalists and conservationists are not well-disposed toward capitalists. As Secretary of Commerce, Paul Hawken might renew some faith. Read his Ecology of Commerce, remember that he practices what he preaches and this will seem as obvious a choice as David Orr for Secretary of Education.

David Orr is the head of Environmental Studies at Oberlin College, which means he can function as an administrator and that he also knows the ins-and-outs of the classroom. His most recent book, "Earth In Mind," is so full of good ideas that President Clinton should invite him to start implementing them immediately. We should not wait to ask this man to begin reviving American education. Finally, I suggest William Weld for Attorney General. It is a role he filled well in Massachusetts before he became governor. He is liberal on social issues and has a keen legal mind. He would keep the Administration honest. What is more, if he puts his weight behind this proposal people will stop and listen. Maybe he would free Leonard Peltier, too.

So there it is: the proposal I call Contact American. Do you think I am a liberal or a conservative, a capitalist or a communist, a Democrat or Republican? I am none of these, just a student who sees the elections of 1996 as America's last chance. This proposal is neither perfect nor complete, but it's a start. Let's make this dream a reality. My grandchildren would appreciate it.

Affirmative action harms all involved

(continued from page 9)

wealth. The purpose of my article was completely objective — to comment on a controversial issue about which I have read various books. Numerous studies were completed on affirmative action in universities and businesses across the nation and many concluded that affirmative action is more harmful to minorities than it is helpful, as I discussed in my article.

The necessity arises to question the reason for the existence of affirmative action. Minorities seem to face two basic injustices that warrant affirmative action laws. First of all, minorities are continuously excluded from numerous positions and opportunities because racism still plagues the nation. Also, inequalities still exist that possibly prevent minorities from excelling at the same pace as other groups, for example in public schooling. Many schools that are predominantly composed of minorities sometimes possess lower quality teachers and facilities and also receive less funding than schools that are predominantly Caucasian. Instead of correcting the problem after the injustice has been completed, such as when students are graduating and approaching college or the workplace, why not correct the injustice by equalizing the quality of schools? Of course this is a simplistic solution, but it conveys the basic premise of attacking the root of the problem and not the weed that grows from it.

Discrimination disgusts me regardless of who it is directed towards, and affirmative action not only redirects discrimination, but it also does not prevent the discrimination it originally meant to curtail.

I do agree with the goal of affirmative action — ending discrimination and equalizing society — however, it is my observation that it is not achieving its goal. Discrimination disgusts me regardless of who it is directed towards, and affirmative action not only redirects discrimination, but it also does not prevent the discrimination it originally meant to curtail. Therefore I cannot endorse it.

Molly Reilly '98

ONCE UPON A FIRST-YEAR DORM...
FRESHMAN
I'VE PARTIED AND PROCRASTINATED LONG ENOUGH, IT'S TIME I GOT THAT EDUCATION I CAME HERE FOR.
HEY! "CHANGING MAN" IS TAKING HIS CLOTHES OFF AGAIN!!
I'LL GET THE BINOCULARS
THIS IS BETTER THAN THAT DIRT COURT AD.
*the male across from us.

Environmental council solicits advice

(continued from page 8)

tee also added a Sustainable Agriculture focus to the ES major in response to a report by ES 401 students.

The Steering Committee's report included a mountain of opportunities that should be addressed over the next three to five years: Hire faculty to teach environmental ethics, environmental history and environmental law; support efforts to accommodate chemistry, physics and the arts into the ES program; create more ES courses for sophomores and juniors; expand the GIS facility; and hire an Administrative Associate to work on new environmental initiatives and to broaden possibilities for student internships.

The committee urged the administration to continue to support efforts in environmental education, such as Trombulak's ES 402 and Elder's ES 302. They also expressed interest in creating summer programs in ES at both the undergraduate and graduate levels — programs that could be taught at High Pond, Bread Loaf in both Ripton and Santa Fe and the Center for Northern Studies.

Many suggestions have arisen since the report was written: Create a course in conservation biology; place more emphasis on field courses; reinstate off-campus J-term courses (students used to spend January doing field research on Baffin Island); create a sustainable forestry program to give students the opportunity to study and manage the college's forest lands; facilitate internship possibilities to provide ES majors with real-world experience.

2. How can we broaden environmental awareness throughout the community?

Committee members have suggested several ways in which Middlebury can make environmental awareness inherent not just in the ES department, but in the academic system as a whole. An ES minor would give students specializing in other areas a chance to focus on environmental issues. An ES distribution requirement would ensure that all students take an ES-related course before they graduate. Faculty could make more efforts to incorporate environmental concerns into classes throughout the college curriculum. Middlebury should also continue to support student environmental groups such as EQ, the Otter Creek Journal, Weybridge House and the Mountain Club (yahoo MOO and FOO!).

Middlebury could strengthen its role as a local center of environmental awareness. The college could allot funding for annual conferences on environmental issues. A college-owned organic farm could serve as a center for studies and conferences on sustainable agriculture (this would not be hard to do — Middlebury owns a significant area of local farmland). The college could also sponsor workshops on solar power, organic gardening, composting, etc.

On a regional level, Middlebury could take a leading role in the protection of the Lake Champlain watershed, the Northern forests and the Adirondacks.

3. How can we reduce Middlebury's impact on the environment?

Middlebury seems like an environmentally respectful place — the college hosts prominent speakers such as Dave Brower, Terry Tempest Williams and Gary Snyder, and folks here recycle most everything. Under the green facade, however, the way the college goes about its business leaves much to be desired. The Environmental Council is currently working on an in-depth study of Middlebury's environmental policies. The council has broken up into eight subcommittees: Administration and Business Management; College Publications; Community Awareness and Education; Energy and Water Conservation; Food; Land Stewardship; Toxics and Pollution; and Waste Minimization. The subcommittees will complete studies this spring as a basis for our report to the president. If you are interested in any of these issues, contact Steven Rockefeller or Holly Cookis.

The Council on the Environment is considering suggestions that range from creating a better system for handling toxic materials to re-foresting A-lot. We could transform Middlebury into a walking campus, providing only satellite parking for students and closing roads such as the ones in front of Old Chapel and behind Proctor to discourage driving. We could compile a research file to include studies on Middlebury's environmental policies written by students, interns and the Environmental Council. The college could eliminate the use of chemicals on campus lawns and plant grasses that would require little or no mowing. My latest thought is that McCardell should abandon his plans to clear the woods behind the graveyard to make room for new social houses (the social houses seem to be in full agreement — they like it right where they are). Instead, the college could clear a narrow trail along the ridge for solace-hungry students. This could be incorporated into a trail system. Such a trail system would give runners and bikers options other than pounding the pavement along the narrow shoulders of routes 125, 23 and 30 and get them out into the Vermont landscape.

The opportunities are boundless. So sit down for a moment or write standing if you must, get together with a friend or two and throw some ideas around — scribble me a note on your thoughts on the environmental future of Middlebury. In the time frame allowed us (the committee must have a finished report to McCardell by the end of April), we will not be able to conduct in-depth studies on the implementation of new programs. We will, however, have the opportunity to present McCardell with our vision of an ideal Environmental Studies Program and an environmentally responsible Middlebury.

Think big, get psyched, and let me know what comes of it. My box number is 2743. My phone extension is 4187.

Greg Hanscom '95

Junior defends necessity of threatened Winter term

After reading the February 23 issue of The Campus, I am convinced that the Educational Council and the Teaching Resources Committee have gone awry in their search for a more productive and mutually advantageous calendar. Their proposal outlines a plan of action which would dilute majors, stifle intellectual curiosity and devalue a Middlebury education. Middlebury's key, binding tenets have been overlooked, and the focus of these changes, in my opinion, is misaligned with the best interests of the students of the College.

My first argument demonstrates the importance of a Winter Term in fostering academic curiosity and exploration. The single-course format enables students to pursue a facet of academic interests which they may be unable to tackle during the regular year. The fact is that students are looking for an academic change during Winter Term, something outside their major field and something they, most likely, are unwilling to spend an entire semester studying. Because they do not have to worry about requirements, for the most part, students follow their curiosity, effectively broadening their intellectual horizons.

By replacing this period of exploration with yet another term governed by college policy, we would not only discourage exploration, but would also water down the curriculum. Satisfying requirements during Winter Term is extremely unhealthy for both the strength of individual majors, as well as for the reputation of the college. Quality will obviously be compromised when students fulfill requirements, which are meant to impart a broad base of knowledge, in blitzkrieg style over a one-month term. Imposing restrictions upon this truncated timeframe would serve no purpose but to stifle intellectual curiosity and to further erode academic standards, seriously devaluing a Middlebury education.

Furthering the attack on Middlebury academics, both proposals (one keeping, one eliminating J-Term) include provisions to decrease the maximum number of courses required for a major to nine. A major is the very cornerstone of a college career; by relaxing our expectations in this forum, we are accepting mediocrity. Such a diluted area of study is antithetical to the purpose of higher education and strongly contradicts the college's resolve to create majors that "provide depth of knowledge in a particular field...[and] an understanding of the special skills, knowledge, and methods of inquiry which unite a discipline," as outlined in this year's Prospectus.

Who then, are we serving by weakening majors, lowering educational standards, jeopardizing Middlebury's reputation and stifling intellectual curiosity? According to the Feb. 23 issue of The Campus, "... the plan aims to reduce the teaching load in general for professors," hoping to "reduce the stress" of teaching consecutive classes in the fall, winter and spring terms. Although I know many Middlebury professors work very hard and deserve far more credit than they receive, I do not understand how this "highly desirable situation" the Educational Council hopes to create is in the best interests of those who will be paying America's largest tuition bill next year.

Middlebury has digressed from its Mission Statement, in which "...the College recognizes and reaffirms its commitment to creating and sustaining an environment conductive to learning ... and a faculty and staff dedicated to excellence and service to the educational needs of students." (General Catalog, p.11) This proposal is neither "dedicated to excellence" nor constructed with the college's educational needs in mind; in actuality, it will do nothing but devalue my $100,000 Middlebury diploma.

At a time when our college has brazenly established the goal of becoming America's best, we must ask ourselves how one becomes better. The singular answer is to demand better — both of our college and of ourselves.

Donn J. Froshiesar '96

World owes you nothing

(continued from page 7)

were obligated to make good on our education, there'd be no tuition cost. And we'd all be in the army.

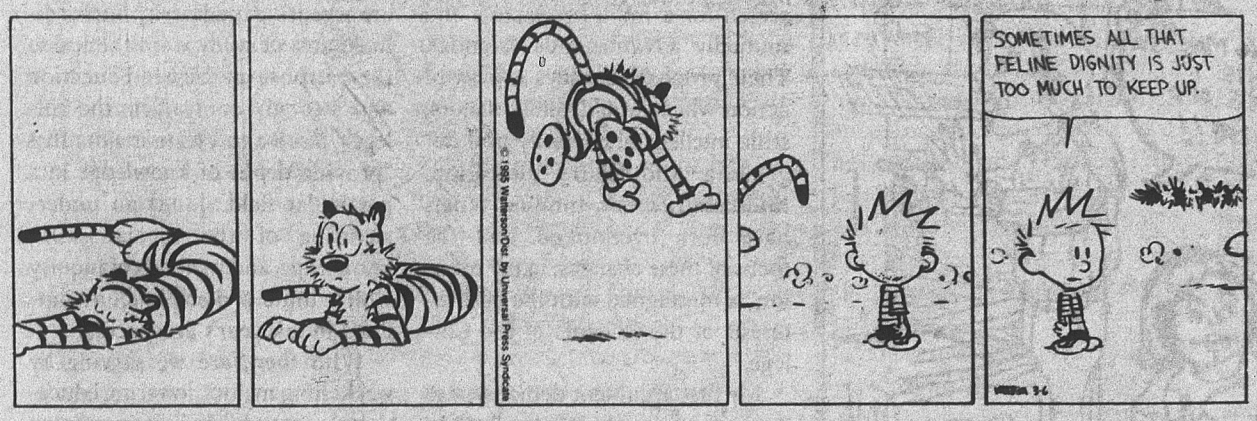
So, have I just justified the slackerism which is rampant on this campus? Nope. Just as we're greedy and chafe at the yoke we feel society puts on us to conform, to go corporate and to do well by ourselves, we also expect something in return for staying within those lines of behavior: a productive, happy life after all of this, a job. Guess what, kids? It works both ways.

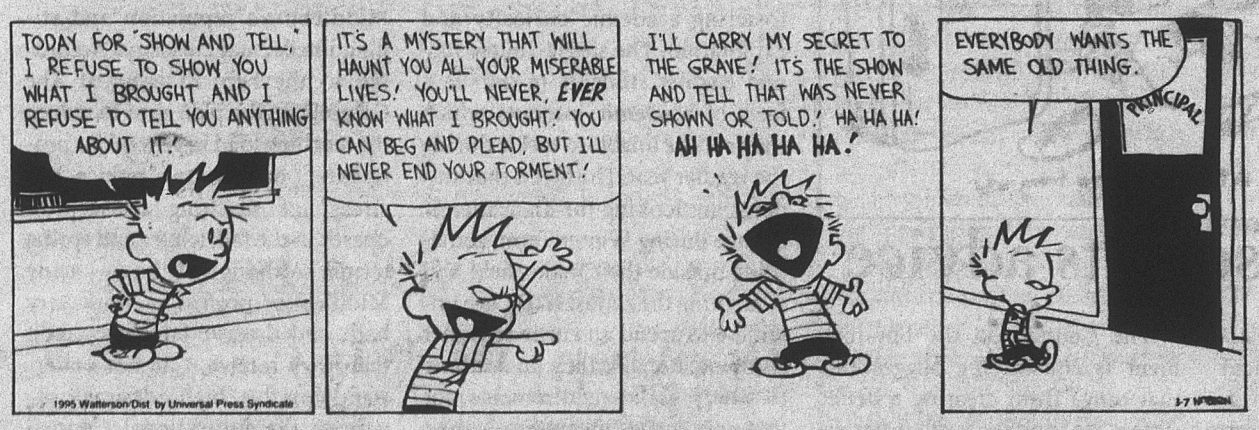
Our society owes us nothing, either. We can work as hard as we can and still get yanked around in the end. You want guarantees, better go enlist. That's the only education I know of which will promise employment at the end.

So why be good without a promise of something better? I'll go with the Lockean point of view — because the rest of us are going to behave in our own best interests, and once we determine it's you holding us back, we'll gang up and put you down. Yes, this is a thinly-veiled way of saying "Stay Off My Hall If You're Going to Do Dorm Damage," because I'll sure as hell blow the whistle. I owe you nothing. But it's also my way of saying that it's fine to march to the tune of a different drummer, so long as your drummer doesn't pound on anyone else. Be a ski bum. Or be a corporate lawyer.

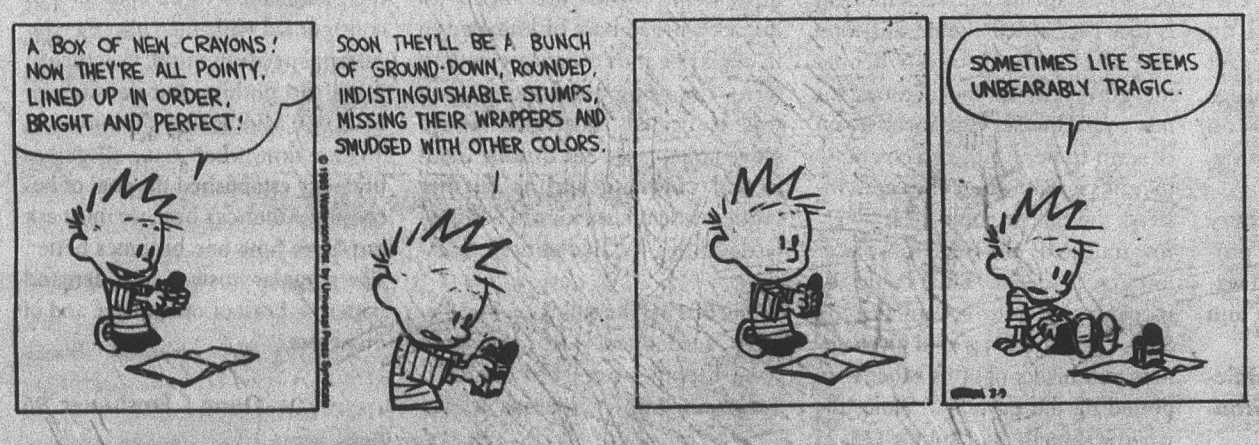
If you can live with yourself, then our opinion is just spit in the wind. Hold out for your dreams, or don't. But lead the life you want, while being fair to others. That's the best this world offers.

Calvin and Hobbes by Bill Watterson

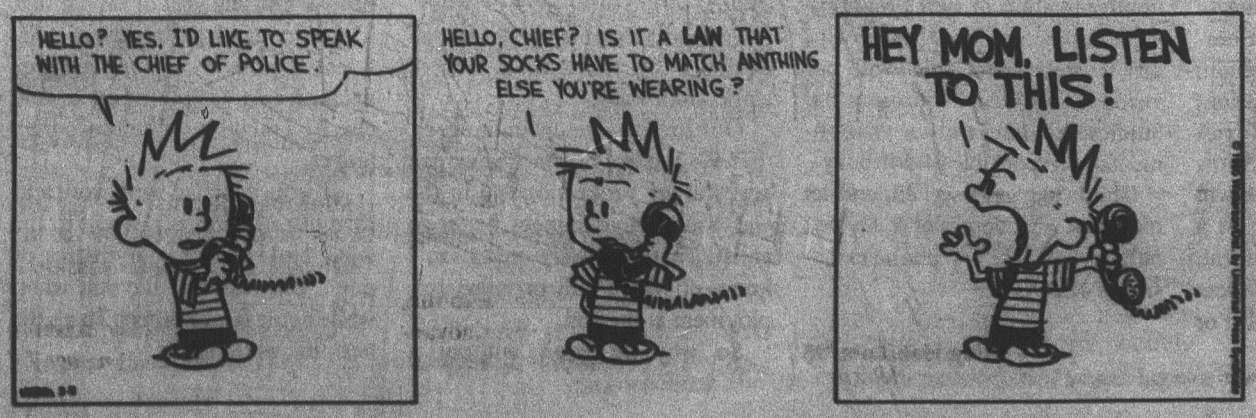



TODAY FOR "SHOW AND TELL," I REFUSE TO SHOW YOU WHAT I BROUGHT AND I REFUSE TO TELL YOU ANYTHING ABOUT IT!
1995 Watterson/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
IT'S A MYSTERY THAT WILL HAUNT YOU ALL YOUR MISERABLE LIVES! YOU'LL NEVER, EVER KNOW WHAT I BROUGHT! YOU CAN BEG AND PLEAD, BUT I'LL NEVER END YOUR TORMENT!
I'LL CARRY MY SECRET TO THE GRAVE! IT'S THE SHOW AND TELL THAT WAS NEVER SHOWN OR TOLD! HA HA HA! AH HA HA HA HA!
EVERYBODY WANTS THE SAME OLD THING.
PRINCIPAL

CIGARS ARE ALL THE RAGE, DAD. YOU SHOULD SMOKE CIGARS!
© 1995 Watterson/Dist. by Universal Press Syndicate
FLATULENCE COULD BE ALL THE RAGE, BUT IT WOULD STILL BE DISGUSTING.
I SEE.
NICELY PUT, DEAR.


A BOX OF NEW CRAYONS! NOW THEY'RE ALL POINTY, LINED UP IN ORDER, BRIGHT AND PERFECT!
SOON THEY'LL BE A BUNCH OF GROUND-DOWN, ROUNDED, INDISTINGUISHABLE STUMPS, MISSING THEIR WRAPPERS AND SMUDGED WITH OTHER COLORS.
SOMETIMES LIFE SEEMS UNBEARABLY TRAGIC.

OK, THAT'S PLENTY OF TELEVISION. TURN IT OFF.
I'LL MOPE AND WHINE AND ARGUE! I'LL GET IN THE WAY! I'LL GET IN TROUBLE! I'LL TEAR AROUND! YOU WON'T HAVE A MOMENT'S PEACE IF YOU MAKE ME TURN OFF THE TV!
I NOTICED SHE HAD TO THINK ABOUT IT.


HELLO? YES, I'D LIKE TO SPEAK WITH THE CHIEF OF POLICE.
HELLO, CHIEF? IS IT A LAW THAT YOUR SOCKS HAVE TO MATCH ANYTHING ELSE YOU'RE WEARING?
HEY MOM, LISTEN TO THIS!

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Wanted: Field Hockey Coaches wanted at Middlebury Union Junior-Senior High School for September and October 1995. If interested please contact Gail Jette at 388-7126 before 8 a.m. and after 6 p.m. Salary provided.

CROSSWORD ANSWER

(from page 16)

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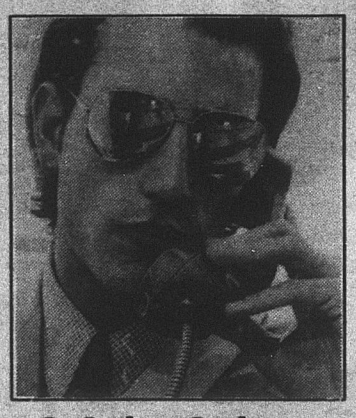
My Little Pony



By Rodney Rothman

I listened to your phonemail this week. I heard all your private messages. I listened to the saved ones. I listened to your new ones. Thanks for leaving the door open.

You see, a suprisingly large segment of this campus here are phonemail naturalists — they, for whatever naive reason, have retained the default password, "111," as their phonemail code. I have known this since the first day I was here.

Everyone knows it. Why do you think there's not much cocaine around campus anymore? We're not getting safer, we're getting smarter — why do blow when you can do someone else's phonemail? The rush is the same, and hey, you get to keep your septum.

When I was 12 years old I figured out a way to pick the lock on my sister's pink diary; a paperback volume dappled with illustrations of Japanese cartoon animals. Before she could say "Hello Kitty" I had invited "da boys" over for a barbecue — in others words, a little poetry slam featuring my sister's heartfelt paeans to playground mini-hunk Chris Sandleitner.

My sister eventually found out, and I was punished severely. All this taught me an important lesson: "To sneak into another person's inner sanctum, a world they perceive as only for their eyes, is a wonderfully exhilarating experience, charged with excitement.

Yet, it is morally bankrupt and harmful. In conclusion, being morally bankrupt and harmful is a wonderfully exhilarating experience, charged with excitement. Lesson over."

Phonemail raiding is just like stealing a diary, but better. It's multimedia. It's more challenging, like a puzzle — Why do they save all messages from their family? They must be homesick. Why did they save the random message from that guy about going skiing? They probably like him. Most importantly, there's all the glee of skulking about in somebody else's personal affairs, but none of the risk of getting caught. In the Information Age, you can be an armchair voyeur!

Checking people's phonemail offers some decisive advantages, as well as some sizeable risks. If you're intrigued by someone (providing you don't believe that anyone with a "111" is by definition a dull person) you can find out all sorts of pertinent and

(continued on page 16)

College joins community to aid family in crisis

By Brooke Capps

It isn't always a dark and stormy night when tragedy strikes the average American family. In fact, the evening of Saturday, February 25 was quite a normal night for the Alger family of Middlebury. That is of course until they returned home around 11:30 p.m. to find their trailer engulfed in flames as the result of an electrical short.

Sue Alger and her three sons, Michael, 10, Chris, 8, and Billy, 4, lost everything that night. Particularly tragic for the boys was the loss of Chris's hamster and the boys' favorite toy: a Sega entertainment system. There is nothing the Algers can do now except try to put their lives back togther.

Fortunately, they are not alone. Arnie Lewis '95 knows Michael through the Community Friends program and has been his Big Brother for the past three years.

Together they have seen some pretty rough times and Lewis is planning to see Michael through this tradgedy too.

With the help of Sarah London, the Tavern's coordinator with Community Friends, Hugh Coyle, the director of Community friends and volunteers on the Middlebury Campus, Lewis is doing all he can to help Michael's family get back on its feet.

"The community has been really great about helping," said Lewis. "[The Algers] got some money back from the Red Cross and Welfare said they'd help out with some other things, but there's just so much more of that little stuff in between that just doesn't get covered."

Since the fire, Lewis has been going door-to-door in the community looking for donations. He has set up a collection jar in the Crest Room and spoken to a few friends in Horatio about putting on a benefit concert. The Tavern is also organizing a pancake breakfast with proceeds going to the Algers.

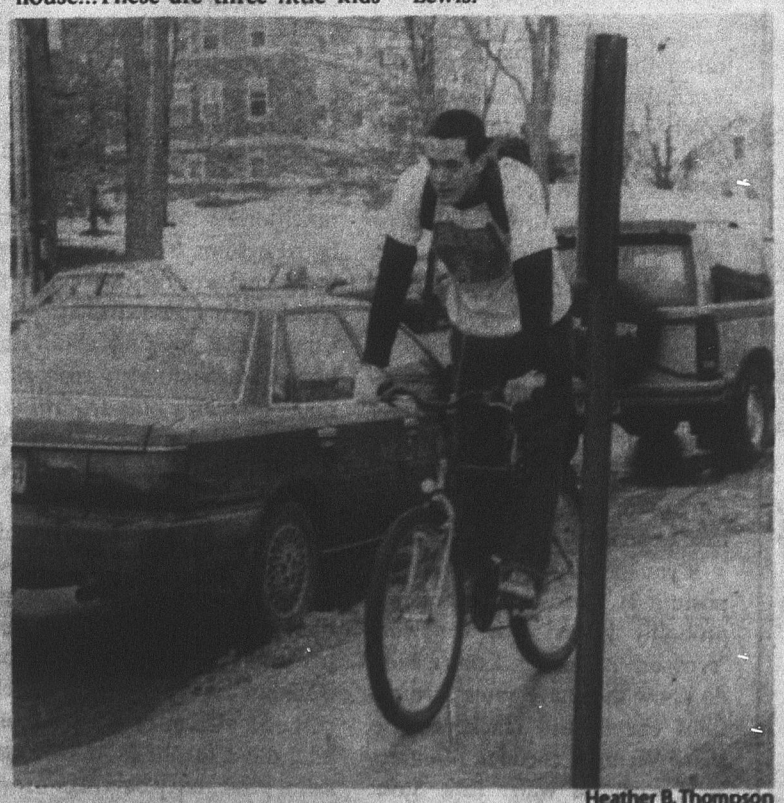
For the time being, Michael and his family are living with relatives and looking for a new home, although they are trying to avoid being placed in a small apartment. "Ideally, we'd love to put the family back up in a low-income house...These are three little kids and they make a fair amount of noise and they can't be in a situation where they can't run around and play," said Lewis.

As well as monetary donations, Lewis feels anything from kitchen knick-knacks to toys and clothes, to wall decorations and calendars could also be useful if donated. Though "they were a [financially struggling family] to begin with, they definitely had their things of [personal]value and those things aren't going to be replaced by Welfare or Red Cross, but you'd like to think they're going to get some of those things back."

Anyone interested in helping the Alger family can call Arnie Lewis or Sarah London on campus, or can reach Hugh Coyle through Community Friends. Donations can also be sent to Volunteer Services in McCullough. "Take me back a month ago, I wouldn't have told you they had a good living situation at all – I thought it was horrible – and yet just last week my little brother was telling me it was so great: 'We had our own home and everything was wonderful, we could do whatever we want.' I guess when you don't have anything and then you have nothing, you still appreciate not having that much," commented Lewis.

Courtesy Photo

A shortage in their electrical wiring destroyed the Alger's trailer home two weeks ago, leaving only ashes in its wake.



Heather B. Thompson

Riding around campus is one way to escape those muddy winter doldrums.

Student gives advice on beating the winter blues

By Emily Stone

Cabin fever. I thought that after three years' experience with Vermont winters I would have learned how to keep my spirits up and mind in balance during these last few weeks before spring break. But when I sat down at my computer the other day to write my term paper entitled, "The Post-Cold War Refugee Crisis in Luxembourg," and I looked down to see 500 pages of "All work and no play makes Emily a dull girl," I realized that I had a problem. I was infected with cabin fever.

The six weeks between February break and spring break are quite possibly the most dreary and monotonous weeks of the Middlebury school year. Daylight is scarce, sunshine even more scarce, and arctic winds and precariously hidden ice patches discourage even the most adventurous mountaineer from venturing outdoors.

"There are ways to combat the claustrophobia caused by weeks spent isolated in one's room...The key: do something different. Break your routine with an out of the ordinary activity."

There are ways to combat the claustrophobia caused by weeks spent isolated in one's room, when the only respite is the daily trip to Proctor.

The key: do something different. Break your routine with an out-of-the-ordinary activity. Here are some suggestions, both on and off campus, costly and free, which will hopefully help a few people keep their sanity during the coming weeks.

Exercise. This may take a great deal of motivation, but it is always worth it. And give the overworked stair masters and free weights at the fitness center a rest. On the occasional nice day, go for a jog outside instead.

If there is too much snow to run, then use the snow to your advantage. A day of downhill skiing is an obvious option. For something less standard go cross country skiing at Bread Loaf or contact the Mountain Club and borrow a set of snow shoes. Like cross country skiing, snow shoeing is an excellent source of excercise, and is probably something which most students have never tried before. Remeber: exploring a new activity is the way to beat cabin fever.

But if the sun is out and you are in mood for an incredible view of Lake Champlain and the Adirondaks, then do not pass up the chance to take a hike up Snake Mountain. It is about an hour each way, and is quite accessible even with a good deal of snow on the ground.

Tours. For the less active, spend an afternoon indoors on a tour at one of the many local factories.

Ben & Jerry's, Otter Creak Brewery, and the Vermont Teddy Bear Company all offer short, inexpensive tours. And the first two offer taste-testing as part of the package.

Museums. If you are in the mood for something slightly more cultured than ice-cream and beer, then take a trip up Route 7 to the Shelburne Museum.

A full afternoon can be spent exploring the hundreds of displays of regional artifacts ranging from razor blades to horse drawn carriages.

Somewhat out of the way, but worth the trip is the Clark Museum in Williamsburg, Massachusetts.

The museum has an impressive permanent collection of fine art including many Renoir paintings and Degas sculptures. Unlike at the Shelburne Museum, admission is free.

But you do not have to travel so

(continued on page 16)

Creative recipes help to cure Proctor Paralysis

By Julie Moriarty

We all know the feeling. It's a feeling of desperation. Our eyes widen as we glance furtively for help. We wander aimlessly in search of something but we don't know what. Our checkbooks show a rise in payments to Noonie's, Pizza Cellar and Amigos, but that trend must stop. It's Proctor Paralysis and it affects every student sooner or later at Middlebury College. It is defined by the inability to find anything appetizing or appealing in Proctor no matter how many choices are offered.

Not that Proctor is a bad thing, in fact they put forth tremendous effort to cater to the needs of the students. However, after seven months of the same old routine of standing in line, collecting the necessary silverware, locating the food, fighting the crowds at the toaster and diving for glasses in the drink section, everyone gets a little antsy. We are yearning for something different, yet the atmosphere in Proctor can stifle creativity. We wind up just sitting down with the same old thing and complaining that we "just couldn't deal." At meal's end, we stand up, disheartened and unsatisfied by yet another boring meal.

But wait, don't despair. There are people who have pushed past the mundane to the realm of creativity. I've interviewed, questioned and prodded these special people to reveal their secret recipes. I've successfully compiled a list of exciting (admittedly a funny word to use in the same sentence as Proctor) alternatives to the normal array of choices.

Let's begin with entrees. There are several tasty gourmet dishes which can be made simply by augmenting what the hot food line has to offer. Chicken quesadillas are easily made even on days when the theme is not Mexican. Simply take a piece of mountain bread and place it open-faced on the plate. Add salsa and cheese from the salad bars and add chicken acquired from the hot food line. Fold and use a coffee stir stick to hold it together. Place it in the microwave for one minute and you're good to go. If there is no chicken, you can substitute any beef they might have or go for the vegetarian approach, adding green peppers and mushrooms.

If you are yearning for pizza but are low on funds, Proctor can satisfy your craving. Toast a bagel or english muffin, add cheese, mushrooms, green peppers and whatever else you like on your pizza and microwave it. Another alternative is to use pita bread. Warning: Be careful toasting it because it often gets caught in the back of the toaster and the Proctor fire patrol has to be called in. Next load on the toppings. I would suggest adding a touch of Mrs. Dash and olive oil for that greasy taste pizza lovers love.

For the vegetarians in our midst, another alternative is to make use of the rolls that are often provided. Spilt it open, place it in a bowl, add vegetables, maybe some cheese, some spices and then microwave. You can do the same thing with a baked potato. They are frequently offered in Proctor and open many doors for the creative mind. Add chili, cottage cheese, tuna salad and salsa, or whaterver strikes your fancy and you have turned a spud into a feast.

Now that you have your entree all set, you need a side salad. Creating a salad is a formidable task in Proctor and the dressings are often a bone of contention. There are always six choices ranging from no fat to high fat, yet sometimes none are appealing. Remain calm because there are alternatives. You can mix ranch dressing with salsa which I realize sounds a little bizarre but it offers a great tangy topping to your veggies.

Another option is mixing mustard (dijon, not French's) with olive oil, vinegar and a touch of honey. Yet another choice is to mix red wine vinegar with some spices. I'm not sure which ones because the person who told me said, "I could tell you but then I'd have to kill you." Well, of course I wanted desperately to write this article, and though I love *The Campus*, I'm not quite prepared to die for it. So you'll have to come up with your own spices. I mean, I can't give you all the answers.

OK, you're past the salads now and into the drink section. Try mixing lemonade with cranberry juice. Happily though, I must admit, the drink section has become much more sophisticated with the new drink machine that mixes for you. Therefore, I don't have too many suggestions. If you want more of a treat, make a root beer float. That's root beer and vanilla ice cream in case you've forgotten.

Now you've done the Proctor face routine and have finally finished your meal. Dessert sounds like a great idea and you head back to the madness for more. Ideas abound for creative desserts so I'll move quickly. Crepes are exciting and are easily made. Take a piece of mountain bread, add vanilla ice cream, fold and stick it together. Pour chocolate syrup over it and then microwave. Use vanilla frozen yogurt for the low-fat option.

Another idea is to make Rice Krispie treats. Take the marshmallows from the coffee/hot chocolate

(continued on page 16)

Heather B. Thompson

Many frustrated students turn to their own innovative recipes to avoid having mid-semester "Proctor Paralysis."

Student freeloads, gains five pounds

By Justin F.A. Racz

For everybody who has ever left a meal at Middlebury less than satiated, worry no more. There is an untapped wellspring of dining alternatives. You just have to know under which coconut to look.

For starters, why not take a stroll to Old Chapel and surprise your favorite dean. Even if you don't have a burning question about your college guidance, pretend you want to change your concentration of study from Spanish to Jewelry Beadery II. After you get the forms, request a handful of jelly beans from Dean Hanson's jar. But watch out for the red ones. Those are her favorite.

If you like chocolate, head downstairs to Karl Lindholm's office and snag some M&M's from the second drawer of his bureau marked Private and Personal. But if you're not in the mood to take any chances, fearing that the dean's acumen will pierce the slightest grafts of tomfoolery, knock on Dean Longman's door and tell him that you love his band, The Choice, and have all his albums. Don't be surprised when he hands you some Hershey Hugs & Kisses (and even a "Longman's Choice" pin).

Friday night offers a plethora of palatable pleasures such as Friday night dinners at Chellis House or the Jewish Center. The beauty of these organizational oases is that you can eat here and you don't even have to be female or Jewish.

If you have ever attended a symposium at Middlebury, then you probobly know what the word "symposium" means. I don't. But I do know they have some scrumptious cheese and crackers. Brie, sharp Vermont cheddar, Montarey Jack, each on wafer thin Stone Wheat Thins, Wheat Thins or Triscuits. Mix and match to taste. If you're creative, make little sandwhiches with the cheese in the middle. Or, although uncouth, sandwhich the cracker between two pieces of cheese. Who cares, it's free and quite tasty.

To all first-years and sophomores, you are the lucky ones. This is the time in life where you get to shop around life's smorgasbord until you find what suits your taste. But don't fret if you don't know what it is exactly you fancy. Medicine, law, business, Latin, math — Middlebury offers a variety of informational meetings to spawn interest for the career disoriented. In addition, there are always plenty of Entenmanns cookies with which to draw students to these meetings. You can always count on the staple platter of Milanos, Brussels and Chessmen. But the more discerning palate can venture to the Latin Talks where one can usually sample feature flavors such as Nantucket, Santa Fe and new Double Chocolate Mint Milanos. Mmmm.

An often overlooked source of nutrition is Middlebury's social house system. Now, Middlebury is in the midst of the rush process in which each house displays what's unique and inviting about their house. Many students rush all six houses, receive bids from one or two, and pledge one. Others rush just one or two and pledge one. And then there is me. I rushed one, received the bid and pledged for a day. Some people have inquired, "Why did you do it and then quit after only a day?" For months I recoiled like a turtle, hiding from interogation. But now I will reveal myself. I rushed for the most selfish reason of all. I did it for the food. Chips and salsa, pizza, tasty beverage to wash it down. I couldn't resist. But I am not alone. It is common knowledge that in 1984, a new-faculty member rushed incognito, perpetrating a scruffy sophomore, and gained four bids and nine pounds.

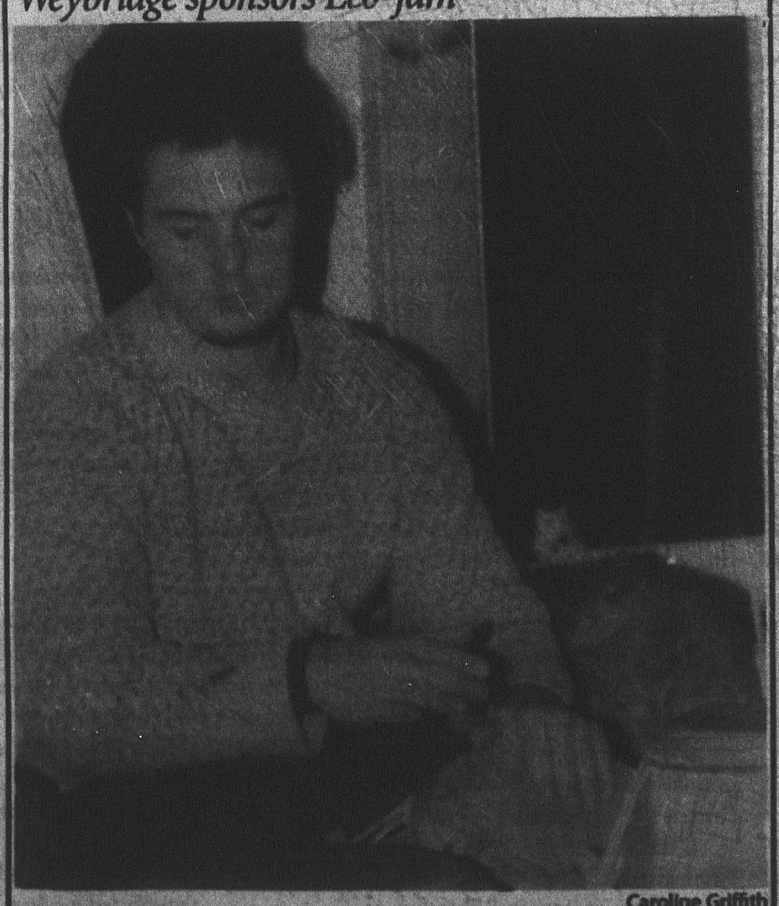
But if the social system seems uninspiring, venture off-campus where the real bounty lies, here are some suggestions. You can always stop into Bud's Barber shop for a lolly-pop (your choice of color) or Calvi's for some Saltines. Sometimes the Rainbow Room has homemade cookies, especially around the holidays.

But if you want yummy, home-cooked fixin's, get dressed in your Sunday best and head for St. Mary's Catholic Church. TODAY'S WEDDING: DONNA AND RANDY. Strike up a conversation with the best-man, probably a guy named Chuck, or a bride's maid, definitely Karen. Say "Hi, you look great! I haven't seen you since the briss. No, not mine, yours!"

Next thing you know, you're riding shot-gun in the newlyweds' limo and heading for the reception where silver dishes of cute apetizers and entrées of young quail await. Sneak a dance in with one of the groom's parents and do the tango. Between goblets, steal the microphone from Nick the lounge singer and raise a toast to Donna and Randy. Say something very Harry Met Sally-esque like, "If I found either of you remotely attractive, I wouldn't have been invited." But quickly cut to "I'm just glad to be here. I love you guys." Blot your eyes with the hankerchief the bandleader hands you, walk out broken-up. Ignore the standing ovation.

But if it's too cold to travel far, or if you are just lazy, as a last resort you can always be an editor for *The Campus* and eat free pizza at Sunday meetings.

Weybridge sponsors Eco-jam



Caroline Griffith

Banker White '95 played the drums at Weybridge's Eco-jam last weekend.

Spanish house offers tango and fiesta

By Josh Irwin

Tucked quietly back towards the edge of campus, along Hillcrest Avenue, the house seems innocuous enough.

The rickety front porch and fading red paint are status quo for rural Vermont. 'Perkins' the obligatory sign in Middlebury blue proclaims cutely.

There is absolutely no indication given that the activity inside would be better suited to a university in Madrid or even a discoteca in Santiago.

Yet within lies a potent weapon for Spanish students: an opportunity to immerse themselves in a hotbed of Spanish language and culture.

The three-story house itself is extraordinarily comfortable, complete with kitchen and living room, all well lit with large windows. Students cramped in Battell and Forest dream of living in the spacious singles the Spanish house dwellers enjoy. Even better, there is no noise from construction which plagues residents across Route 125.

Conversation, mostly Spanish in rapid bursts interspersed with occasional English, flows easily between rooms. A comfortable feeling of camaraderie and amiability predominates.

More important than the relatively elegant material comforts, the house offers something less tangible and more valuable. "Atmosphere is the most important thing," says Javier Marín Alvarado, a teaching assistant who lives on the third floor.

He mentions the remarkable diversity of experience and interests found here. The current nine residents, four women and five men, come from wide racial and geographic backgrounds and pursue varied majors. Some are Americans preparing for or returning from time spent abroad; others are native Spanish speakers.

Amanda Shoemaker

Perkins House is a unique living space on campus, allowing students to improve their Spanish, practice their merengue and escape dorm life.

Spanish-based activities are abundant. Instructors on the Middlebury faculty are encouraged to visit the house for informal discussions on their particular areas of interest and expertise.

Recent guests include Roberto Véguez, dean of Language Schools, who spoke about his own departure from Cuba and the current economic and political situation there. Professor Alberto Portugal discussed the changing face of Peru, and Marín Alvarado offered his thoughts on the twentieth century Spanish economy and the country's role in the developing European market.

Naturally, the residents here indulge in some less academic activity. Olé plays an integral role in the cultural and social experiences of the house.

Spanish and Latin foods are favorites as are flamboyant Latin American dances such as the salsa or merengue. In addition, Alvarado is eagerly planning a Bullfighting Night. Stopping short only of dressing up as a torero himself, he will use video footage and personal experience in an attempt to satisfy the enormous American curiosity about the sport. In conjunction with Ross Commons, the Spanish house looks forward as well to a tapas (or appetizer) party in May.

The students relish their housing arrangement. "Its the nicest room I've had in my four years here," says Arnold Lewis '95. "It's a nice living situation." Neighbors Carrie Huxford '97 and Carina Starkl '97 are equally enthusiastic. Huxford, who heads to Mexico City and Bogota next year, appreciates the chance to pick up the slang and various idioms ignored in the classroom. "The combination of native speakers and non-native speakers is excellent," she says. While the Spanish house is gaining familiarity on campus, says Alvarado, his goal is to make the opportunity known to one hundred per cent of the school community. He certainly appears to have the energy to succeed.

Olé meets each Monday night at nine in Perkins for interested Spanish speakers.

In addition, with room draw for special interest houses nearing, the opportunity to escape dorm life and improve one's Spanish skills avails itself. And, as Kate Pearson '95 neatly summed up, "Living in a house rocks."

HOW TO HANG ON TO YOUR DOUGH.

(WITHOUT CRAMPING YOUR STYLE)

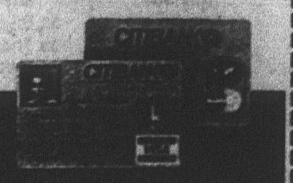
✍ **Separate "needs" from "wants."**
Hint: A bed is a need. A Mr. Microphone is a want.

✍ **Split the bill but only pay your share.**
Why put in for someone else's swordfish if all you got was soup?

✍ **Set aside money for emergencies.**
Unless you'd rather call your parents for it instead.

✍ **Keep your eye on your wallet.**
Have a Citibank Classic card in case you lose it. The Lost Wallet℠ Service can get you emergency cash,* a new card, usually within 24 hours, and help replacing vital documents.

*Based on available cash line.



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To apply call 1-800-CITIBANK

sex, lies and skerry

by ethan

What roaring controversy! I exclaimed with glee as I unfolded my precious copy of *The Campus* last week and perused the title of the lead article. Admittedly, I paused for a second after my curious outburst, struggling with my faulty memory in order to recall what exactly the SGA was. Is this national news or does it pertain only to the college community? I wondered as I stumbled clumsily about in the darkness of my mnemonic deficiency. Thumbing through my other mail, I thought that perhaps the solution to my problem and the remedy for my confusion lay within my paltry handful of letters. But my venture proved fruitless and I was left standing amidst a pile of scattered forms and Visa applications without a clue as to what the SGA was.

But of course! I bellowed as I gathered my things from the tiled McCullough floor; I will try using word-association to determine the true identity of what was to me quite a mysterious entity. I figured that I would, in the course of perusing my limited files of memory, specifically all of the acronyms, I would happen upon the information that eluded me. Let's see, I began, AA, no...AAA, no, but I am a bit closer. Hmmh, PTA seems to ring a bell: The SGA is something related to the PTA, so it definitely has to do with school. As if in a sudden burst of electricity, I recalled the memory to mind and realized that the headline was a proclamation of an attempted coup d'état.

After perusing all of the articles and noting the frequency with which the various authors used the term "perceived," I began to reflect on the substance of those articles. As there was little, this reflection took an almost negligible amount of time. Then I began to speculate, my interest having been piqued by the pseudo-controversy: Maybe I ought to take up the staff of leadership in hand and assume the office of SGA president.

We, the student body, would then be spared from the rather ignorant drivel of the so-called "student leaders" who used last week's issue of *The Campus* to air out their individual grievances. What a shame it is that the one exception to the general apathy of the Middlebury student body had to be such a senseless contest of artificially inflated egos.

Igniting the flame of political controversy that burned with such little intensity was a letter delivered to the SGA president at the midnight hour. After I tired of laughing at the thought of some SGA operative, clad in dark clothing, speeding from the enemy camp to the presidential suite in order to deliver a threatening letter in a tactic that reeks of melodrama, I tried to imagine the reaction of the prez to that letter. Thinking that it was some sort of death threat, or maybe a tawdry declaration of love from some lobbyist, he lifts the letter from the floor and proceeds to read its contents. How disappointed he must be when the ostensibly boiling kettle lets out a tepid stream of water!

But enough prolegomenon, on to the thesis of my article: All of these political pretenders need to imagine themselves stepping down from their lofty heights (for the heights upon which they reside exist only in some remote and imagined world) and concede the futility of their positions. The undeniable fact remains that all of them are incompetent in their offices of representatives of the student body.

I for one could not get past the part in the letter in which the insurgents castigated the president for signing his name and title to two separate documents, a letter and article, when neither necessarily represented the views of the SGA or student body. Granted, there is a bit of a disclaimer at the beginning of this letter, but I still find the fact that the co-authors of the letter commit an almost identical political sin in signing their titles along with their names a bit ironic. This title dropping also strikes me as funny; in prefacing their complaints with the disclaimer, the group provided for objections similar to the one that I have just made. But, and herein lies the humor, the only reason remaining for using their titles would, then, be to demonstrate their involvement in college matters and to create the illusion of power. Are we to think, as we read these titles, that this letter was delivered from Middlebury's political elite? Is that not an oxymoron?

Even more astonishing is the claim that Mr. President's article which "reputed to be harshly critical of the Commons System" is an example of his incompetence. Quite the contrary, I should think; for it would seem that even the slightest involvement in the Commons System is proof of incompetence and any realization of this fact proof of political acumen.

When all is said and done, as the saying goes; when all of the asinine bickering about inevitably moot points has found its much appreciated conclusion; when everyone realizes that the Commons System is but a pathetic alternative to an even more pathetic social house system; then, perhaps, the political table having been cleared of its tiresome mess, something can be done for the benefit of the student body rather than the administrators that lord over it.

All the power in the world can be yours.
Write for Features.
Call:
Justin x3557 or Emily x6804.

Rothman explores private lives through phonemail system

(continued from page 13)
helpful information about them. If they're getting scores of messages from a guy or girl that talks in a baby voice and drones on about every boring aspect of their day, that obviously means they're dating someone.

Do they get lots of messages about "Gardening" meetings in an apartment above Leatherworks? Then you know they are in an underground fraternity. Do they leave themselves messages? Then you know they are either a loser, a maniac or a maniacal loser.

"In this world where information is increasingly at the disposal of anyone with a computer and an inferiority complex, it is very noble to stand firm..."

You can use the info you obtain to increase your chances of bumping into that special someone. Do they get messages from the Mountain Club?

Maybe its time you actually went to one of those "How I Survived for 10 Weeks in Alaska on Nothing but Berries, Water and Human Flesh" slide shows. The way I see it, by striving to learn more about these people, we are learning to connect better, transcending the creaky stagnation of ordinary relationships.

It's like a research grant, but you give it to yourself, and it is not money, but deeply personal information never intended for your ears. Like a research grant.

The risk you run is that you may accidentally reveal your deceits by forgetting you obtained the information illicitly.

I'm not talking about something obvious, like introducing yourself to your mark as "the person who has been stalking you through the phone system." I'm talking about making a reference to their friend Benny that is coming to visit. "How did you know Ben is coming to visit? He just called today." Be careful.

All this talk about phonemail listening brought me to a startling realization: Why kill myself every week trying to write a column when I can exploit the private lives of students around me?

Today I hit the directory and started randomly checking the boxes.

My snooping paid off witn some big scoops. Look out, password purists — this column is now code name "Middlebury Wash and Carry," and it's time to take out the dirty laundry.

Phonemail's Greatest Hits: Real Middlebury Messages. [Names and specifics have been changed to protect ... me.]

DESPERATE GUY PHONEMAIL - PARTS I, II III

"Hey Jenny, its Claudio, what's going on, uh if you wanna come by a little later, like, like 9-9:30ish, I got something for ya so...sweet! Talk to you then."

"Hey Jenny, its Claudio, whats going on. Uhh, just returning your call. I don't know what I'm doing tonight, probably just chill, sorta just take it easy, have a mellow night. Um, so yeah, just give me a call when you get back or whatever, tell me what's up."

"Jenny, whats up, its Claudio. Its about 11:45. Just calling to see how you doin, whatchu been up to. If you just want to give me a ring back sometime later on tongiht, I'll be up for a while, extension 5555. Later on."

THANKS FOR THE SOUP?

"Hi Gary, this is Alice. Thank you so much for the soup. I'm psyched! You're such a sweetie. Two things, and I'll get your cup back to you, ha ha ha ha, thank you very much, and I'll talk to you later. Thanks! Bye-bye."

CRAZY GUY MESSAGE, A.K.A. SOUP II

"I'm gonna get my hands on you, and I'm gonna rip you apart. I'm gonna rip your bare flesh apart. I'm gonna do it. And I'm gonna eat it. And I'm gonna put it in a bowl and make soup out of it."

DRUNK GUY SINGS "EVEN FLOW"

"Even Flooooooooow. All my thoughts like...budda das. Webulloooo. Buddy techie herrrr a waaaaaay. Victor? I'm on my carpet. I'm a little...I'm.....sick. I dunno why I call you — I can see you now. Heeeeyyy! Victor! I'm talking to your phone!

If you're one of those "111"'ers, and this column has finally convinced you to be paranoid and hyper-defensive like the rest of us, don't rush off and change your password. In some ways, you should be proud. There is a place for people like you among us. You give us hope.

In this world where information is increasingly at the disposal of anyone with a computer and an inferiority complex, it is very noble to stand firm, nakedly, honestly, openly.

Changing your password is like crossing your arms — people with "111" have excellent telephonic body language. I know who you are.

The last reason to not change your password, of course, is that it is not necessary anymore. I already changed it for you.

Winter blues driven away by change

(continued from page 13)
far to be cultured. The Middlebury Museum at the Arts Center should not be overlooked by any art aficionado.

Day Trips. These excursions offer the greatest sense of escape from campus. Burlington is the most obvious destination. Spend the day window shopping, people watching, or in a quiet cafe.

For those over 21, stay for the evening and take in a band at any number of bars featuring live music. The change of scenery is a well deserved break from the social houses.

Or head south down Route 30 to Manchester and shop 'til you drop at the outlet stores. J. Crew, Polo, Timberland—a New England college student's utopia. And for the soon-to-be graduates in need of business suits, a trip to the Brooks Brothers, Calvin Klein or Armani outlets can help you dress for success for less.

If shopping is not your idea of a fun-filled day but hockey is, then drive up to Montreal and take in a Canadians game.

Standing room only tickets are less than 10 dollars and can be bought the day of the game at The Forum.

This list is by no means complete. Though winter may seem to be dismal, there actually are endless possible activities and excursions to break the grey, snowy monotony.

With the exception of the new Febs who are still enthralled by the seemingly never ending wonders of the Middlebury campus, most other students have experienced cabin fever at one time or another during their college career. So if your eyes begin to glaze over during the next few weeks, ask around for suggestions or try some of the ideas above, and hopefully you can avoid an attack of cabin fever.

Creative cuisine prevents Proctor disillusionment

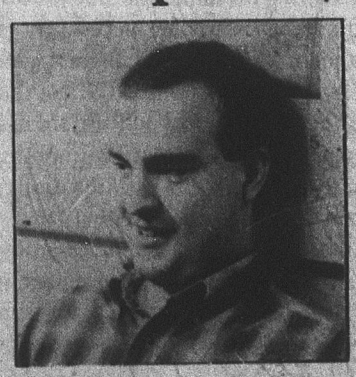
(continued from page 14)
section and put them in a cereal bowl with a pat of butter. Melt in the microwave for 45 seconds. They're fun to watch in the microwave because they expand, (OK, it has been a slow weekend.) Then mix in the rice krispies and enjoy your gooey, chewy treat.

Next, the things you can do with frozen yogurt are amazing. Adding those little packets of Sanka coffee grounds to vanilla makes a great coffee-flavored treat. Mixing a scoop of peanut butter with chocolate or vanilla is an indulgence. There's always the option of adding brownies or cookies to fro-yo or ice cream. My last suggestion would be to make fondue on Sunday nights. Simply dip whatever fruit they have available into a bowl of hot fudge. It's very European.

Well folks, that's a wrap. Hopefully these suggestions will cure any cases of Proctor Paralysis that have popped up within the past couple of months. The important thing to remember is: DO NOT PANIC! Don't let those creative juices be stifled by the weight of the Proctor atmosphere. Remember the Little Red Engine's motto: "I think I can, I think I can!"

CAMPUS VOICES

Which movie should win best picture this year?



■ *"Well, I haven't seen any of them. I'd say 'Forrest Gump' though. I've heard enough about that one."*
–Tom Ford '97

■ *"'Pulp Fiction' because it's funny violence. I like violence."*
–Matt Ford '97

■ *"'Forrest Gump' because I thought it was a nice, simple movie with traditional values."*
–Leah Mital '95

■ *"'Pulp Fiction.' It is an amazing satire about the callousness of murder."*
–Jessie Mello '98

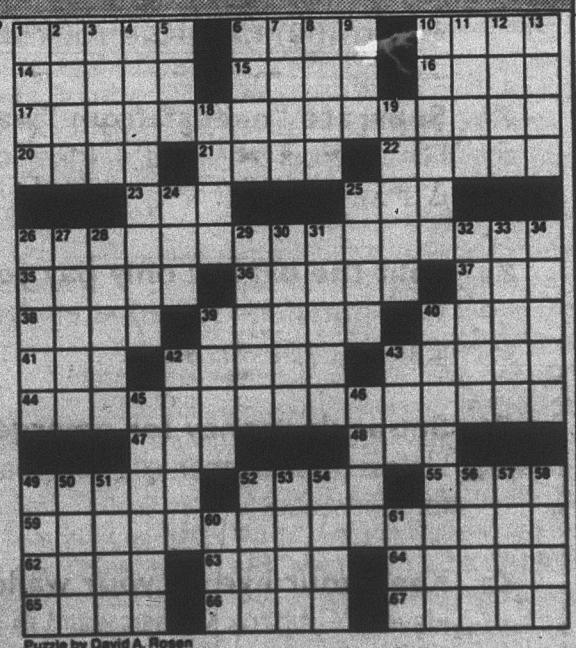
The New York Times Crossword

ACROSS

1 Rumble
6 Not fancy?
10 Difficult obligation
14 "—— of do or die"
15 Bing Crosby best seller
16 Guthrie the younger
17 Hearty entree
20 Kibbutzniks' dance
21 Reverse
22 Must
23 Place to crash
25 Kipling novel
26 Tasty side dish
35 Mortgage matter
36 Words before "in the arm" or "in the dark"
37 Detective's cry
38 Them in "Them!"
39 Common key signature
40 Composer —— Carlo Menotti
41 Cpl., for one
42 Feed a fete
43 Stood for
44 Yummy dessert
47 Cherbourg chum
48 Latin I?
49 Lamb Chop's "spokesperson"
52 Oceania republic
55 Windmill segment
59 Eventual bonus?
62 Cream-filled sandwich
63 Debouchment
64 Internet patrons
65 Blubber
66 Yeltsin veto
67 Koch's predecessor

DOWN

1 Calculator work
2 Radar blip
3 Thieves' hideout
4 They're loose
5 "Yikes!"
6 "The Afternoon of a ——"
7 In the thick of
8 First name in perfumery
9 Venture
10 Japanese mats
11 Olympic hawk
12 Bed-frame crosspiece
13 "Mikado" executioner
18 Sport whose name means "soft way"
19 Polo, e.g.
24 Circulars
25 Carpenter's woe
26 French bread?
27 High-priced spread?
28 "... and eat ——"
29 Subj. of a Clinton victory, 11/17/93
30 Key
31 Midway alternative
32 River nymph
33 The Gold Coast, today
34 "À votre ——!"
39 Java neighbor
40 Columbus, by birth
42 "Nancy" or "Cathy"
43 Puss
45 Server on skates
46 Dos + cuatro
49 Take third
50 Take on
51 "—— on Film" (1983 book set)
52 Conniving
53 Coach Nastase
54 Rock's Joan
56 Sphere
57 "Cheers" habitué
58 Alternatively
60 Lady lobster
61 Ungainly craft



Puzzle by David A. Rosen

Edited by Will Shortz
No. 0104

The answers to the New York Times Daily Crossword can be found on Page 12

New Hampshire welcomes GOP convention for election '96

By Doug Tsao

The next presidential election may be 20 months away, but the race has already begun. While many candidates have been discreetly campaigning since 1992, the race officially began a few weeks ago in Manchester, New Hampshire at the Holiday Inn Center. There, the New Hampshire Republican Party held its annual fundraiser dinner on February 19. This year's dinner, however, took on added significance as nine potential Republican candidates attended hoping to start winning the support of New Hampshire's Republicans.

Every four years, New Hampshire becomes the proving ground for presidential hopefuls. New Hampshire holds the crucial first primary; without a strong showing, a candidate's chances to continue on are slim.

"...New Hampshire holds the crucial first primary; without a strong showing, a candidate's chances to continue on are slim."

To put the New Hampshire primary's importance in perspective, consider this: In 1992, Bill Clinton became the first president elected who did not win New Hampshire since it became the first primary in 1964. Countless front-runners — including this year's front-runner Bob Dole — have seen their presidential dreams melt away into the New Hampshire snow.

The scene at the Holiday Inn Center had the feel of a major political event. In the parking lot sat satellite trucks for the major networks: ABC, NBC, CBS and CNN. Supporters who could not afford the $100-a-plate price waited outside to greet their candidates as they arrived (this writer obtained free entry with a "press" credential). Lamar Alexander had his own troupe of sorority sisters who called out his name in unison as he got out of his car. "Dole for President," "Gramm for President," "Alexander for President," and "Dornan for President" placards adorned the lobby walls.

In the hotel, the better organized and better financed candidates held receptions with free champagne and hors d'oeuvres as means of illustrating for the press just how well-organized and well-financed they were. Milling about were the state's Republican activists, clearly basking in the attention.

As the dinner's starting time approached, the jockeying between the event's organizers and the press began. Failing to anticipate the media attention, the event's organizers had not reserved enough space for television cameras. Likewise, they failed to set-up enough tables for the wire-reporters.

The press began to caustically refer to the woman in charge as the "wicked-witch of the west." NPR's Elizabeth Arnold ended up sitting on a radiator.After the dinner was served — pasta salad followed by roast beef with potatoes — the nine potential candidates spoke.

Each began to stake out the grounds for their candidacy. Bob Dole spoke of his experience and leadership; Phil Gramm tried to establish himself as the most conservative candidate who would complete the Republican revolution begun by the 104th Congress. Lamar Alexander justified his candidacy with the fact that he doesn't live in Washington, D.C.

When some candidates spoke, the press revealed its cynicism, usually at the candidates' expense. When Richard Lugar spoke of foreign policy speech, a reporter for The Economist joked, "Dick Lugar has got to figure out if he's running for president or Secretary of State." When Lynn Martin delivered a rambling and largely incomprehensible monologue, they begged for mercy, "Is there a gong around?" When Arlen Specter told the audience that the Republican Party should remain neutral on the abortion issue, they admired him for his foolish courage.

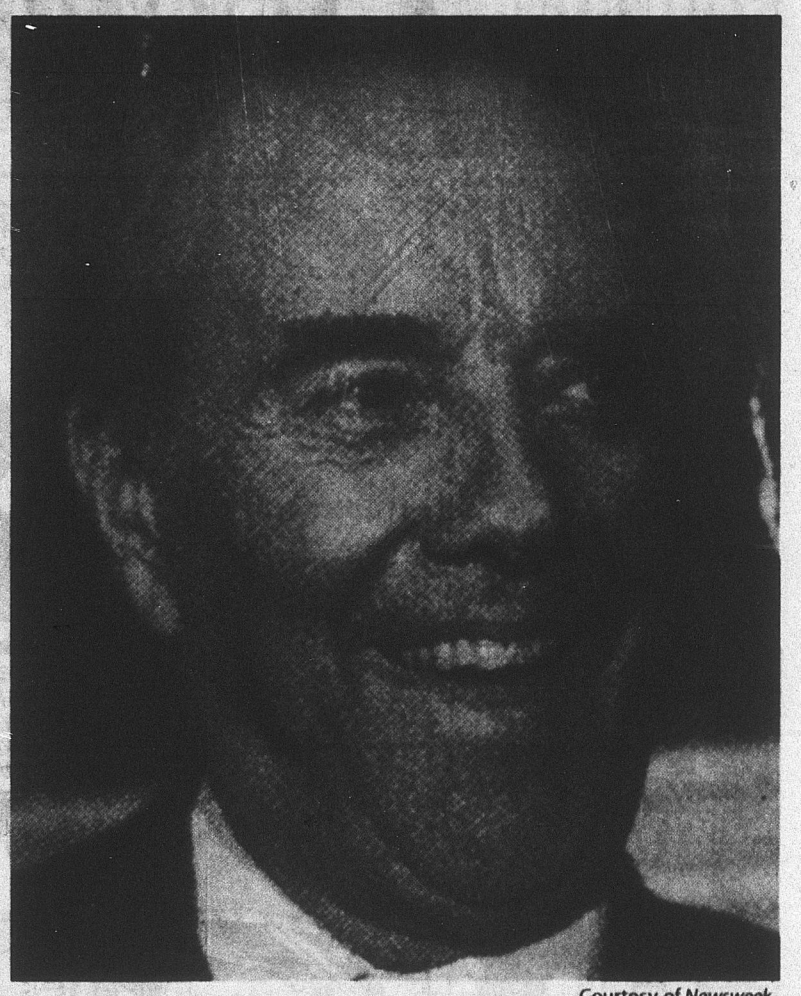
For the most part, the candidates concentrated on introducing themselves; there were no fireworks and none tried to bloody their opponents.

With the exception of the abortion issue, there was very little disagreement. At times, there were even expressions of unity (this usually happened when President Clinton was the topic).

As soon as the candidates were finished speaking, the daily press, television and radio reporters sprinted out of the room to file their stories. Journalists without deadlines leisurely waited for dessert to be served.

After the candidates spoke, columnist P.J. O'Rourke delivered a remarkably tasteless speech. At one point, O'Rourke spoke of "Franklin Roosevelt being pushed down the disability ramp to the gates of hell." The crowd of Republican faithful loved it. Outside, television reporters did live-shots for the 10 p.m. news. Some candidates stayed to do radio and television interviews.

Bob Dole wasted no time and began campaigning the next day. He spoke at a restaurant in downtown Manchester. It was a large crowd for New Hampshire politics — maybe 75 people attended. The candidate spoke for ten minutes and then answered questions for about a half-hour. Indeed, this was the essence of the New Hampshire primary: intimate contact with voters. It is fitting that candidates must pass the New Hampshire test before they can move on to the next stage which is dominated by television commercials and sound bytes. Indeed, before moving to that level, a candidate must stand ten feet away from a voter and explain how he plans on balancing the budget without taking his Social Security check. After shaking hands and signing autographs, Dole's aides announced that the senator had to leave. Senator Dole had more campaigning to do. Even though the New Hampshire primary is a full year away, there is still a lot of campaigning left and time, already short, is beginning to slip away.



Courtesy of *Newsweek*

Senator Bob Dole was among Republican candidates at the N.H. convention.

The doctors are in:

Advice from the experts

Dr. Strangelove Dr. RosenRosen

Dear Doctors,

Over the last few weeks I have been dating two different girls. It has been casual with both of them and we were all comfortable with that status. But this weekend they both approached me separately and said that they wanted more of a commitment from me. This is not what I want. But I still want to be able to date them, because I enjoy spending time with them both. And I don't want to look like a bastard in the process. Is this possible?

—Fat and Frustrated

Dear Fat,

As long as you were honest with both girls all along, you can hold your head up and not feel like a typical, self-centered male jerk. If both parties want commitment and you can't give it, unfortunately that may be the end of the road for you. But if you continue to be honest and tell the girls exactly why you can't get more serious with them, maybe you can salvage something from your relationship with both of them.

—Dr. Strangelove

Well big guy, have you ever heard the expression you can't have your cake and eat it too? But hey, at least you got to eat some of the frosting. Seriously, you're playing with two girls' emotions here. You should have a long talk with yourself and decide if you want a relationship with either of these girls. If not, it may mean that you can't continue dating either of them, but think of the good times you spent together and move on.

—Dr. RosenRosen

Dear Doctors,

I have been receiving flowers anonymously. I expected the guy to make himself known after the first bouquet, but I have gotten a second and a third, and no one is coming forward. I have a couple ideas of who it might be. And needless to say, I am incredibly curious. How do I tactfully find out who the mysterious flower-giver is?

—Bewildered in Battell

Dear Bewildered,

Hmmm, this is a tough one. If you ask one of the potential guys if he's been sending you flowers and it is not him, both of you are going to feel a little silly. Maybe you don't have to take this risk and can use your sleuthing instincts to find your man. Do you have any mutual friends who you can press for information?

Or could you drop hints to the different guys and see if any of them respond? Chances are he wants to be found out. It is not human nature to be altruistically romantic. There is usually a goal in mind.

—Dr. Strangelove

Well said doctor, but I think a more viable approach to discover the flower-sender goes as follows. Think of the potential Romeos and then during a conversation with each of them mention your favorite flower. But use a different flower for each guy. For example, "Gee John, spring is coming and I just can't wait for the daisies to blossom." If you receive a bouquet of daisies then chances are that, yes, John sent them and you can confront him and thank him finally.

—Dr. RosenRosen

Dear Doctors,

My roommate has owed me $40 for over a month. How do I ask her for the money without putting her on the defensive and endangering our friendship?

—T.M.

Dear T.M.,

This is a very common problem among friends and the solution is always a bit awkward. No one likes to press their friends for money. But the best approach is to come right out and ask your roommate for the money.

Maybe she just forgot. And if she gets offended, reassure her that it is not a personal gripe, but a financial problem. If she is a true friend, she will understand the difference.

—Dr. Strangelove and RosenRosen

If you have any questions for our resident Doctors, send them to box 3863.

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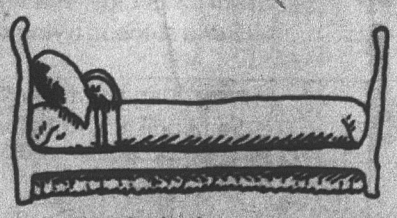

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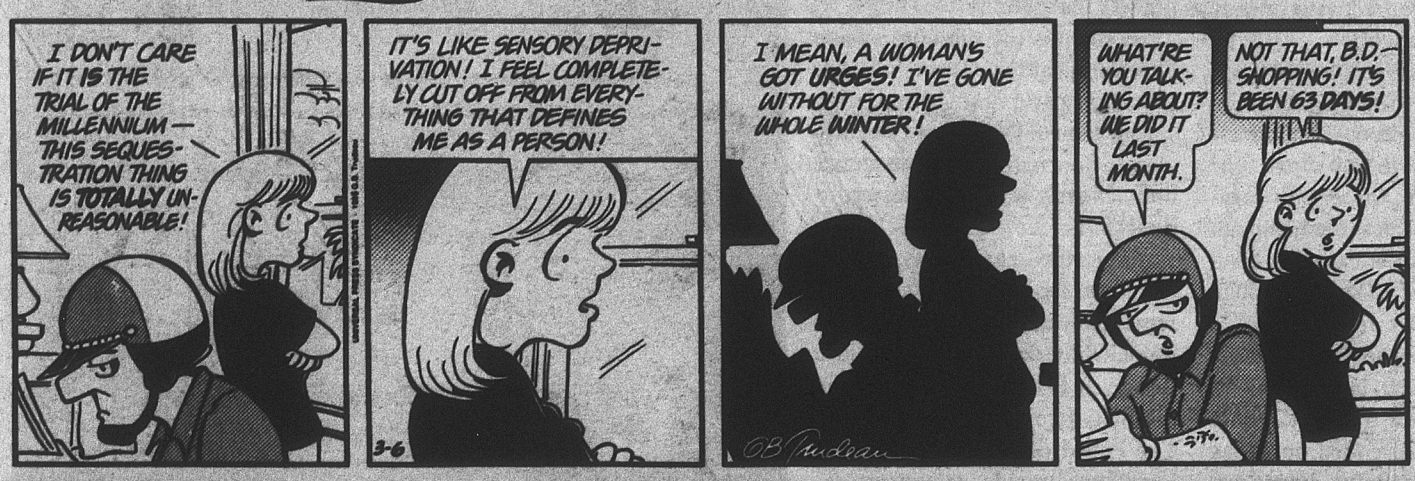
Doonesbury

BY G.B. TRUDEAU


I DON'T CARE IF IT IS THE TRIAL OF THE MILLENNIUM — THIS SEQUESTRATION THING IS TOTALLY UNREASONABLE!
IT'S LIKE SENSORY DEPRIVATION! I FEEL COMPLETELY CUT OFF FROM EVERYTHING THAT DEFINES ME AS A PERSON!
I MEAN, A WOMAN'S GOT URGES! I'VE GONE WITHOUT FOR THE WHOLE WINTER!
WHAT'RE YOU TALKING ABOUT? WE DID IT LAST MONTH.
NOT THAT, B.D.— SHOPPING! IT'S BEEN 63 DAYS!
SHOPPING? THAT'S WHAT YOU MISS THE MOST?
YOU'RE NOT A WOMAN, B.D. YOU COULDN'T POSSIBLY UNDERSTAND...
WHY DON'T YOU JUST SHOP BY CATALOG?
I HAVE, BUT IT'S NOT THE SAME. SHOPPING IS VERY TACTILE FOR ME...
THERE'S SOMETHING UNNATURAL ABOUT NOT SHOPPING, SOMETHING UNHOLY. HERE, FEEL MY CREDIT CARDS!
WHOA— THEY'RE COLD AS ICE!
AND LOOK— THE MAGNETIC STRIPS ARE FLAKING FROM DISUSE!
ROOM CHECK, MS. BOOPSTEIN!
RAP RAP
UM... SHE'S IN THE SHOWER, DEPUTY!
TELL HER THE BUS LEAVES FOR THE COURTHOUSE AT 8:30 SHARP!
I SURE WILL! GOOD NIGHT!
THAT WAS CLOSE...
HURRY, B.D.! SAKS CLOSES IN AN HOUR!
I CAN'T BELIEVE I'M IN A DEPARTMENT STORE, B.D.! I CAN BREATHE AGAIN!
POOR O.J. — HE HASN'T BEEN ABLE TO SHOP SINCE LAST SPRING! HOW'S HE SUPPOSED TO LOOK HIS BEST IN COURT?
I WONDER IF I SHOULD GET HIM A NEW TIE...
GET HIM A TIE? WHAT, ARE YOU NUTS?
YOU THINK THE JUDGE WOULD DISAPPROVE?
OH, NO, NOT AT ALL! GET HIM SOME NEW GLOVES WHILE YOU'RE AT IT!
B.D., I FEEL LIKE A NEW WOMAN!
THAT'S BECAUSE YOU'RE $600 LIGHTER.
WELL, IT WAS SWEET OF YOU TO HELP ME BUST OUT!
CAREFUL...
BE QUIET GOING IN! THE DEPUTIES MAY BE DOLTS, BUT THEY'RE NOT DEAF!
STOP WORRYING! 'NIGHT, SWEETHEART!
ALTERNATE JUROR #7 GETS DRESSED DOWN.
MS. BOOPSTEIN, I REALLY OUGHT TO DISMISS YOU FROM THE JURY RIGHT NOW...
EVEN THOUGH YOU WERE APPARENTLY NOT EXPOSED TO ANY TRIAL PUBLICITY, I AM EXTREMELY DISAPPOINTED IN YOUR IRRESPONSIBLE BEHAVIOR!
DO YOU HAVE ANYTHING TO SAY FOR YOURSELF?
YES, YOUR HONOR. I BOUGHT YOU A BELT AT SAKS!
OH... UM... APPROACH THE BENCH.

(continued from page 17)

ANNOUNCEMENTS

Saturday, April 1, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m.: The eighth annual Children's Miracle Network Bowl-A-Thon will benefit care and prevention programs for children at Fletcher Allen Health Care. Prizes will be awarded to top fundraisers. Location: Yankee Lanes, Colchester. Sponsored by Yankee Lanes, Blue Cross/Blue Shield of Vermont, 95 Triple X Radio and WVMT-AM 620. For more information, call the Fletcher Allen Development Office at 802-656-2887.

Julie Bressor will talk about "Local Color" in the Abernathy Room of Starr Library of Middlebury College on Wedensday, March 8, at 4:15 p.m. Her talk is the second program in the Spring Abernethy Series. The public is welcome.

Jayne Ann Phillips will deliver the 1995 Abernethy Lecture in the Abernethy Room of Starr Library of Middlebury College on Friday, March 10, at 4:15 p.m. Ms. Phillips is the author of four books of fiction and the recipient of many prestigious awards. The public is welcome to attend.

Students applying for a Rotary International Ambassador Scholarship, which is available to students for one year of academic study abroad, can receive information about the Rotary Foundation Scholarship through Karl Lindholm, Study Abroad Advisor, Old Chapel 1st Floor.

PERSONALS

"Hey middmailers: Thanks for round two, but we're all pretty puzzled. How about giving us some clues in future mailings?"
—Speaking for many, Box 3796

"Yeah! Reveal yourself, middmailers! And thanks!"
—Box 3788

"Middmailers rule."
—Box 3613

I love jigsaw puzzles, do you? Let's get together! Call Shannah at extension 6641.

OVERHEARDS

"Ow! My uterus hurts."
—Male hypochondriac in Barnes

"I hate infinitely long rods!"
—A frustrated physics student

"Well it's not my fault it popped out!"
—Same student, trying to explain

"He's writing me down!"
—Someone who obviously didn't want to be quoted

"It's not dishonest until he asks you and you lie to his face."
—Cynical senior woman

"How did I get here? Why did I get off on a tangent? What was I talking about?"
—Murray Dry

"She may be from the armpit of America but at least she's not from the crotch."
—Overheard on College Avenue

"For $27,000, Middlebury is the most expensive contraceptive."
—Disgruntled sophomore

Classic Springsteen proves 'Greatest Hits' are 'Born To Run'

By Ryan D'Agostino

On a steamy night in Harvard Square in 1974, then-music critic John Landau saw a ragamuffin kid from New Jersey open for Bonnie Raitt. The next day Landau wrote, "I've seen the future of rock and roll, and his name is Bruce Springsteen." A year later, with Landau as his manager, Springsteen released one of the greatest-selling rock albums ever.

The title track from that album, Born To Run, kicks off the Boss's greatest hits collection, released on Columbia Records last week. It includes a powerful set of songs written and performed by the man Neil Young calls "one of the all-time great songwriters."

The album is dominated by classics from Springsteen's glory days with the E Street Band, when he wrote songs about a kind of desperate hope which lies at the heart of America's working class. Perhaps the most indicative example of this is the rock anthem "Born To Run," a song about two kids who are chasing some big, vague miracle they think is waiting for them out there, a miracle which they never realize. But, like most of the characters in Springsteen's poems, it is that hope which keeps them running and which keeps "the highway jammed with broken heroes."

The album naturally includes some of the token chart-busters like "Hungry Heart" and "Dancing In the Dark." Not Bruce's greatest masterpieces of songwriting, but definitely songs that just about everyone can sing along with. Landau actually made Bruce write "Dancing In the Dark" at the last minute so that the Born In the USA album would have a hot, marketable single that people would buy. It worked.

The greatest hits are rounded out by darker tunes like "Atlantic City" and "The River," and it includes some songs from his last three albums. Some people said Bruce was washed up after Born In the USA. But some people also said that after Born To Run.

The fact is that Springsteen has changed as a person, and his music has changed with him. In a 1992 interview with Q Magazine, Springsteen articulated the evolution of himself and his music.

"I reached a point where I thought I knew myself very well [but] I had a variety of things happen where I realized I actually didn't," he said. "It was a very good eye-opener because it throws everything wide open; it's not that you don't know parts of yourself but very few people can confront themselves very accurately. We all live with our illusions and our self-image and there's a good percentage of it that's a pipe-dream."

The prize of the greatest hits album is the last four songs. Bruce held an unexpected reunion of the entire E Street Band in New York last month to record four new songs which are included on the album. Two of them were actually written in 1982 and were slated for Born In the USA.

"This Hard Land" and "Murder Incorporated" were re-recorded this year but they still have the old E Street feeling, a feeling that transcends conventional rock and captures the emotions of real people. It's a feeling that the band had in the days when Bruce described it as "just a glorified bar band."

The other two tracks are brand new. "Secret Garden," perhaps the closest Bruce has ever come to a love song, is a sensual ballad about

the wonder and mystery of women. On this track, Clarence "Big Man" Clemons adds a saxophone solo which is, as Bruce writes in the liner notes, "sweeter than ever."

"Blood Brothers" is the last new song, and it echoes some of Springsteen's earlier themes of connection and of unanswered questions about why those connections are vital in getting through this life.

The liner notes are also something special. Springsteen includes hand-written reflections on every song included on the album, a candid insight into Bruce's feelings about how his music has changed. The pictures in the notes are classic, depicting the man and the band through the years, macho fashion and all. Eric Meola's cover photo is of Bruce looking as bad-ass as ever; it was actually taken in 1975 during the sessions which produced the classic shot on the cover of the Born To Run album.

As a whole, this collection of songs gives a retrospective chronicle of one of the greatest rock and roll artists ever. The only regret is the absence of any tunes from his first two albums. But what came after those albums was a twenty-years-and-counting career as a writer and performer and as one of the most misunderstood, visionary, underrated and masterful lyricists music has ever known.

Art collection preserves Americana

By Nell Cross

As I am continually learning as an Art History major, the subject of art is often less interesting than the social history surrounding it. In a gallery talk given in honor of George Washington's birthday on the current exhibition "The Hall Park McCullough Collection: Portraits of George Washington," the historical background of McCullough captured my interest more than the exhibit itself.

A former trustee of the college, McCullough (1872-1966) had a true love for Vermont. Both his father and great-grandfather were Vermont governors, and he was a member of the sixth generation of his family to live in the Hall Farmhouse in North Bennington. A successful lawyer and businessman, McCullough divided his time between Manhattan and Vermont. Through a close relationship with his great-grandfather, author of "History of Vermont, From Its Discovery to Its Admission Into the Union in 1791," McCullough learned to appreciate Vermont and early American history.

At the age of 12, McCullough began his career as a collector, purchasing a piece of early American furniture. He was a respected and knowledgeable collector, who waited to find the exact right piece to add to his many collections which included ancient Roman coins, stamps, manuscripts, pewter, china, maps, engravings, paintings and books.

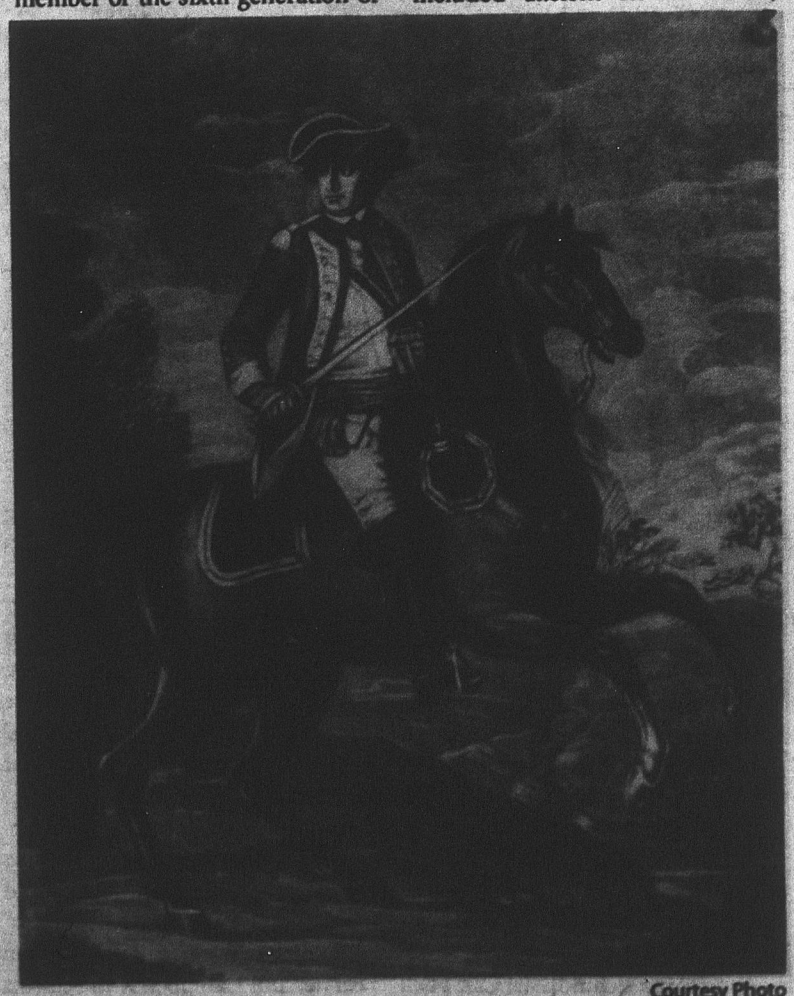
As for the human element, McCullough was uncharacteristically generous with his collections. He let students have complete access, and shied away from public recognition. In a somewhat puzzling move, he left his collections to his children, but failed to give them instruction as to what to do with his lifelong collection of objects.

Fortunately, they carried on the same philanthropy as he and devised a method of dispersal by displaying his collections of books, manuscripts, maps, paintings, drawings and engravings, taking up an entire floor of the New York Historical Society. They then invited the directors and librarians of the University of Vermont, Yale University, the Bennington Museum, the Pierpont Morgan Library and the New York Historical Society to view the exhibit and pick which objects they wanted to own.

McCullough amassed over 600 images of George Washington. While the exhibit displays only 54 of these, the collection is broken down into ten categories which are well represented and make the collection more comprehensible. An interesting point made in the exhibit is that Washington was the first real international celebrity, his mug plastered on everything from sheet music covers to chamber pots. The wide range of depiction is surprising, considering how accustomed we are to accepting the version on the one dollar bill as his actual appearance.

The reception following the talk was a gastronomic delight; spanikopita, fruit, cherry tarts and of course a fat wedge of birthday cake. Gallery talks definitely have their perks.

Exhibition runs through March 26 in the Upper Gallery.



Courtesy Photo

In the exhibition The Hall Park McCullough Collection a number of George Washington portraits will be shown in the upper gallery until March 26.

Mainstream pop culture infested with stupidity

By Dave Enslee

Where have you gone Weird Al Yankovik? The musical world is suffering in the vacuum of your absence. I'll be the first to admit that I listened to the music of Weird Al in the '80s and early '90s, a time in which he was one of the few voices of true parody amid a world of music which just begged to be made fun of. Who among us can forget the first time we heard "Eat It" or "Like a Surgeon"?

But Weird Al is nowhere to be seen these days. Apart from a few Greatest Hits releases, and his mediocre Alapalooza LP in '93, Al has been sadly absent from the music scene. Where has he gone? Have the creative juices dried up? Has he decided that playing the accordion just isn't sexy anymore? If my theory is correct, neither of these answers are correct. The truth is, Weird Al has nothing left to do anymore. For a man whose job it was to find the silliness hidden within a song and open it up to the parody which it deserved, the sources of his inspiration have simply evaporated and vanished. The sad reality of the state of popular music today is that the songs are already so stupid that to try to parody them would be redundant.

"For a man whose job it was to find the silliness hidden within a song...the sources of his inspiration have simply evaporated..."

I experienced this depressing epiphany last week as I was editing this section and occasionally listening to the radio in the background. Since the station which was playing was WEQX, I naturally wasn't paying much attention. However, as soon as I heard a certain song over the airwaves, I became fully exposed to the stupidity of the music of today. This song, according to my little sister, is imaginatively called "You Suck" and is performed by some group of no-talent singers called The Murmurs. While the title should have tipped me off to the level of intelligence inherent in the song, the lyrics to the chorus verse ensured this band's place in musical history among the likes of other superbands such as The Cucumbers and 'Til Tuesday.

"There's dust on my guitar/ and it's all your fault/ You poison all my thoughts/ and for that you suck."

I must admit, I'd heard this song once before, when I was home for Christmas break, but at the time, I just assumed that it was a bogus song made up by one of the New York radio stations with too much time on their hands. However, after

(continued on page 21)

John, you haven't written an article about rock and roll for a long time. Why are you writing this article?

Well John, that's a good question. There's absolutely no good reason. Everything that comes out of my fingers (so to speak) is so appallingly bad there doesn't seem to be any reason to go on. You know you start asking yourself, why the hell would anybody want to read my half-baked opinions on some lousy rock band? I mean don't think I don't recognize this stuff for the crap that it is.

So wait a minute here, did you admit that your opinions were "half-baked" and that you have no conviction about what you write about?

Well, yes I did, John. I say a lot of things, John. None of them are particularly well thought out or articulated. They are just words and they are weighted for shock value only.

John are you writing this article "off the cuff" then? Do you have any idea where it is leading?

No.

Okay, maybe this will help. What do I hate most about music criticism written today, or most specifically rock and roll criticism?

Thank you John, I've always wanted to answer that question. The people who write about rock and roll, on the whole, know absolutely nothing about music. They couldn't tell a major chord from their ass. Then they get some major label to send them free CDs because they think that's status and they pretend to be objective. It's a load of crap. Most "critics" buy into the fame of rock and roll. They don't ever admit to their readers that they are failed rock stars, that they are empty fools who define themselves by rock music.

What do you mean by this?

OK, John, I'll be gentle here. Critics are all dreamers with no life of their own. They live vicariously through rock stars. So of course they are made to feel closer to the rock and roll star if they are sent their new record for free.

Who sends the records? Bands?

Of course not! The major labels buy the critics with toys and candy and then the most they can say about a record is whether or not "you" should buy it. It's a goddamn disgrace.

John, you seem to be pretty hard on these so called "critics" who receive perks from major labels. But aren't you being hypocritical? Didn't you receive free CDs from Sony Music Corporation in exchange for reviews in *The Campus*?

Yes I did. And you better believe I never mentioned it once in the reviews I wrote. But maybe you'll excuse me for this fact: They dropped me from the service because I kept panning their bands.

Yes but I seem to remember you consciously would balance a lousy review with an exemplary one.

Look. Take it easy, I was young.

Well I'll ask you another question. Have you stopped writing for *The Campus* because you feel as though you have nothing new to say? Is it because you look at your writing and are disgusted by its ineptitude?

Well, that's pretty astute John. I feel as though I'm washed up. And yes, I have nothing more to say. In fact, I've found I have nothing more to say about anything. It seems like I'm joking but I'm dead serious.

You mean to say that all you do is complain about the creative work other people are doing and do nothing yourself?

That's right. The idea for this article is pure plagiarism (from Norman Mailer), as is everything I have ever written or believed.

Aren't you being egotistical and self-pitying by exposing yourself like this in such a public forum?

Probably. I guess I just wanted to write something that would subtly remind people that there is a concert I set up this Saturday in Pearsons Lounge featuring three bands: EEF from Burlington, Karaoke Hustler from Leeds, London, and Middlebury's own Super Hussy. It starts at 9 p.m., with a special guest, Hollow Point.

Super Hussy is a band you're a member of, correct?

Yes, it's the only thing I really care about.

Aren't you just desperately trying to latch on to something during your last, scary semester at this ideal institution?

Yes.

BY JOHN COLPITTS

'Midgets' blends voices and dance

By Brooke Bissell

The Midgets of Metaphysics presented an odd but enjoyable hour-long entirely improvised performance on Friday night in the Center for the Arts Dance Theatre. As the program notes explain, Penny Campbell (Middlebury College dance faculty member), Katherine Ferrier '91 and Peter Schmitz (former Middlebury College dance faculty member) intended to collaboratively investigate dance/movement and voice.

The piece/pieces created on stage were about the particular artists working together in a given performance; the relationships between these three artists within the performance were the grounding theme. The specific content of the work was secondary. The work had no title, but the program suggested that instead the artists prefer to give the performing unit a title and leave the titling of the piece to the audience after it is over.

The performance opened with Campbell crouched on the floor on her hands and knees with one hand in front of her twisted and flexed, her face staring at that hand. Warm, low light with tones of pink, red and orange lit Campbell who was wearing black loose pants and a pearly white satin camisole. From stillness, Campbell began to fold and unfold herself in this twisted kneeling position, letting her hands and feet leave the floor and flex and contract while suspended in the air. Schmitz and Ferrier (also wearing white tops and black pants) entered upstage left facing Campbell on a diagonal and patiently supported her work with their vision until they gathered a theme to start moving themselves. From this point forward the relationship between the three people continually shifted through solos, duets, and trios with each artist taking responsibility for his or her own body/voice in space and in relation to the work of others.

I was immediately struck by the interpersonal relationships that were being created in front of me in performance. Seeing three bodies move together improvisationally is a very emotionally powerful event and immediately I noticed how everyday life can be used as material in dance. I felt as if I were watching three talented individuals join their creative strengths to produce a dynamic performance with changes in energy, emotion, sounding and theme. When a new duet occurred or a solo happened that produced a new relationship between the performers, I felt as if I were watching the process of a new piece being created in front of me. The dancers effortlessly shifted from one theme to another and allowed the audience into their space to experience the shift with them, when in other situations, the audience does not get to see the "backstage" events that allow for this change.

Josh Tyree

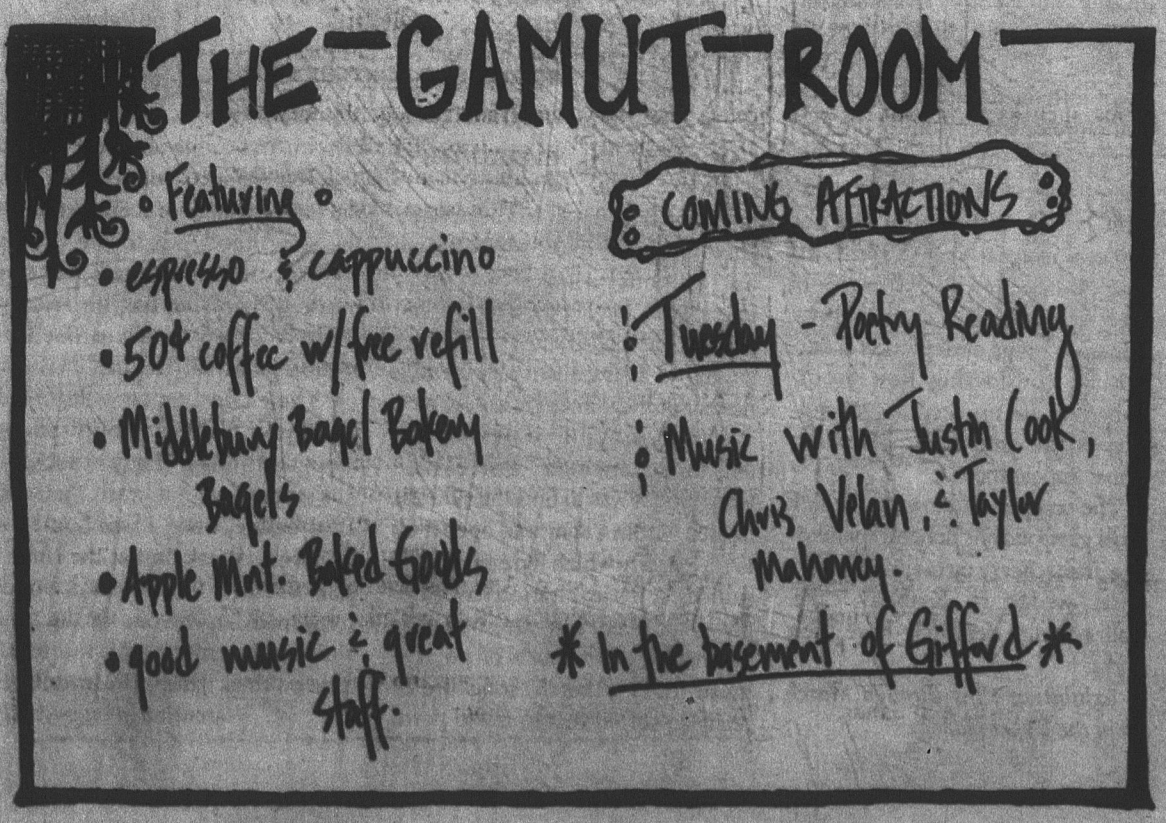
Midgets of Metaphysics *rehearsed for their show last Friday night.*

"Seeing three bodies move together improvisationally is a very emotionally powerful event...I noticed how everyday life can be used as material in dance."

The performance was included by the Music Department in the Festival of the Human Voice which has been going on all year. If you saw the work (or heard the work), you would know why. The range of sounding that emerged from the artists was quite varied. Schmitz opted for the speaking monologues that he is known for, while Campbell stayed away from text, but chose to experiment with less familiar organic sounds and pushed the range of pitches instead.

Ferrier's sounding was at times imitative of Campbell, but responsibly so as to connect the sounding themes in the work. One of the most touching and brilliant moments occurred when Schmitz and Campbell were enraptured in a duet in which Schmitz was standing behind Campbell who in turn was kneeling on the floor and could not see Schmitz behind her. Campbell communicated with Schmitz without using her vision and this duet became a contact event where Schmitz was moving Campbell along a diagonal by lifting her up on his hip and putting her down again while together they were verbally sounding to/at/with each other. During this, Ferrier brilliantly stood upstage right with her hands covering her eyes and thoughtfully said, "This is the story about two people who know where they are going. This is the story of two people who found each other." These lines located the relationship between Schmitz and Campbell for the audience and Ferrier's covering of her eyes took some of the sacredness off the moment that was happening in front of her.

The voice tended to be the primary element in the piece, with movement often seeming secondary; I was struck by the amount of walking that I saw. It was so refreshing to see some simpler movements supported by dedicated, responsible sounding. At times the voices had the audience in hysterics which seemed like a very comfortable way to allow the viewers to participate in the creative process that was happening in front of them. The audience's laughing shared the same physical space as the dancers' bodies/sounding which made for an interesting audience/performer moment in the piece. The performance ended with a traveling trio movement sequence that shifted into a downstage left "operatic" sounding/movement duet between Ferrier and Campbell with Schmitz supporting them in the background.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COMING ATTRACTIONS
Tuesday - Poetry Reading
Music with Justin Cook, Chris Velan, & Taylor Mahoney.
* In the basement of Gifford *

Malone's 'New Experience' transcends clutter of first attempt

By Chris Zegarelli

The end of 1990 saw the release of an unknown album by an unknown band. Michelle Malone and Drag the River released their debut album, *Relentless*, to a less than receptive audience. The album received little air play and the recording wound up in used music and discount bins all over the country as quickly as it was released. The vocals of Michelle Malone were clever and intelligent enough to make the listener stop and think if given half the chance. This message was hidden, though, behind typical guitar riffs, annoyingly poppy drum beats and Malone's screams and howls: what she thought the music needed to make headway into the audience at which the music was aimed.

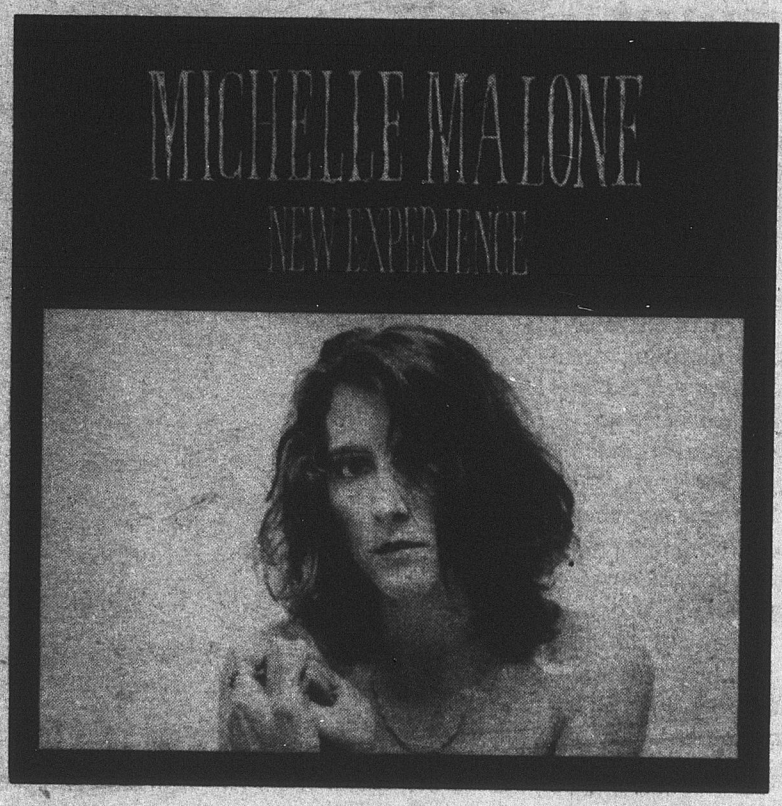
This album would have remained nothing more than a tribute to the musical styles popular at the time if Malone didn't pursue her musical career with vigor and patience and if I hadn't stumbled upon it among the used music selections at Pure Pop in Burlington. This is getting ahead of the story, though. I originally heard of Malone through fans of the Indigo Girls who told me that her music was similar to that of Amy Ray and Emily Saliers. I put blind faith in these words and ventured to find Malone's solo album, *New Experience*, which was released years after Relentless.

I was glad that I did so. During a creative dry spell on the music scene, I found Malone's music to be clever, creative and provocative. The songs are played primarily on the acoustic guitar with a few songs surrounded by the bass and the driving drums of a talented band. Her lyrics are intelligent and at a point disturbing. She interweaves bitter love songs with comic escapes from relationships. She also incorporates different musical styles, not limiting herself to the repetitive nature of rock. She even has two soliloquies which prove to be the most provocative and curious points of the album.

One of these soliloquies, "The First," takes a retrospective look at the first years of her life. She notes that "she didn't need nothing and nobody because she was the beginning and the end, she was the missing link, the kitchen sink, the queen mother and she was nobody's guinea pig. But her own." Such enigmas and plays on words make the album fun to listen to and even stir up memories of Tori Amos' debut album Little Earthquakes. In "Under the Memphis Sky" Malone tells her former boyfriend that he will never find her again and that she made sure of this by leaving him her phone book which had made up friends' names and numbers within. Such clever twists make her music fun to listen to and always leave an unexpected plots in her songs. Malone also meanders in musical style from a blues-influenced song "All I Can Give You (Is Me)," to alternative songs like "New Experience" to typical pop songs, such as "Incident." Such divergence in musical style makes it difficult to get bored with Malone's music.

New Experience is a commendable debut album for Malone. She takes risks as in "Skull and Cross Bones Flesh," when she ponders what the world would have been like if Jesus had AIDS. She also keeps her music fresh, not falling into the trap of popularity in trying to catch the sound popular for the day but bravely playing as she wants and leaving it to us to decide if it will stand the test of time.

I was content thinking this was her only album until reading in the CD booklet that these songs had been written a few years earlier. I didn't think much of it until I found the Michelle Malone and Drag the River album in Burlington. I was excited to find it, but was soon let down when I discovered that though some of the songs were the same, the sound was completely different. On this first album, Malone bowed to pressures to conform and make catchy music. She then reconsidered after this album's failure and decided to redo the songs in her own style on her own album, leaving it to her listeners to rate her genius. She has passed this test and now stands as alternative genius rather than pop has-been.



Stupid songs infest popular music

(continued from page 19)

hearing it on EQX and then hearing my little sister say that she wanted to shell out $17 to buy the entire CD for that one masterpiece of modern music, I realized that popular music had reached its nadir.

What has gone wrong? To say nothing about rap and dance music, where most performers at least take the time and effort to make their lyrics rhyme, popular music is getting stupider by the minute. Is there one event out there which we can point to which opened the floodgates to this flood of inane music?

While I'm sure that this phenomenon has been accumulating over the last 50 years, I believe I can point to one particular event last year which pushed things over the edge. When Green Day rose to national prominence following their appearance at Woodstock '94 on top of their saturation-style MTV video play, stupid music entered the mainstream. While singing about such enlightening topics as masturbation and boredom, Green Day gave the world its first universally accepted example of music devoid of any meaning whatsoever. A line such as "I don't know you/ but I think I hate you" could easily be proof for the infinite monkeys at infinite typewriters theory — except in this case, it probably took the monkeys about 15 minutes.

So just how did Green Day manage to push meaningless music into the realm of the mainstream? Probably the same way that rap and dance music became two of the more popular types of music on the airwaves today. If you make a catchy enough jingle that people can dance to, then the lemmings will come running to you with their wallets wide open. Green Day succeeded in disguising their musical inefficiencies beneath a mosh-friendly three-chord punk guitar sound. While I'm sure that Green Day will never win any songwriter's awards, their music has become a pop staple, due to its listenability.

However, most of the wannabe stupid bands out there haven't quite learned this trick of disguising idiotic lyrics beneath a catchy song. Watch MTV or listen to EQX for more than an hour and you're sure to hear several examples of this type of music. Weezer, a band that rose to popularity through their videos, is a prime example. They're singing about having their sweaters destroyed and looking like Mary Tyler Moore. While their music may not be all that attractive, Weezer proves the point that if you make a good enough video, people will think your music is great no matter how stupid it is.

Having said this, I must point out a few exceptions. A song by the Flaming Lips infests our airways as we speak, about a girl who spreads Vaseline on toast, sneezes in magazines and uses tangerines to color her hair. When one thinks back to bands such as New Kids on the Block and realizes their insignificance now, the ephemeral nature of a musical fad becomes clear. I'm sure that the Flaming Lips and the Murmurs will be appearing on "Where Are They Now?" weekends sometime in the near future, evoking a "what was I thinking?" type of memory in many of our minds.

There even may be hope for Weird Al himself. He somehow managed to release "Headline News," a parody of one of last year's dumber songs, "Mmm mmm mmm mmm." Keep trying Al. There's enough stupidity out there to make us all happy. If you manage to find the genius though, then you might have another hit on your hands.

Arts Smarts

DANCE

FRIDAY: Art Bridgeman and Myrna Packer teach a Master Class of partnering for intermediate and advanced dancers. Observers welcome. 2:20pm-4:10 p.m. Arts Center Dance Theatre.

SATURDAY: Art Bridgeman and Myrna Packer perform in The Bare Bones Circus. Their duets embody humor, sensuality, intelligence and spontaneity. Admission: $8 general, $6 seniors and $3 students. 8 p.m. Arts Center Dance Studio.

FILM

FRIDAY: Relive the famous leg crossing (or uncrossing) scene at "Basic Instinct." Admission is $1. 7 p.m. and 9:30 p.m. Dana Auditorium.

SATURDAY: "Farewell My Concubine." Two boys meet and become friends, initiating a relationship that becomes obsessive and which intertwines with the history of China from the 1930s to the 1970s. In Chinese with English subtitles. 4 p.m. and 7:30 p.m. Twilight Auditorium.

MONDAY: "Strangers on a Train." An endlessly fascinating suspense thriller on the theme of the Double. An alternate ending will be shown. 7:30 p.m. Dana Auditorium.

LECTURE/READINGS

FRIDAY: The author of four books of fiction, Jayne Anne Phillips has won many awards, including a nomination for the National Book Critics Circle for "Machine Dreams." Her second novel "Shelter" was published in 1994. 4:15 p.m. Abernethy Room, Starr Library.

SUNDAY: In the final month of the Festival of the Human Voice, Clara Yu, Gregory Chiang and Simon Barenbaum will have a Poetry Reading in Chinese, French and English. Tea will be served. 2 p.m. Arts Center Lower Lobby.

MUSIC

FRIDAY: The Locke Consort is a European group of four string players, two violinists, a gamba player and a theorbo player. Works by Purcell, Locke, Blow, Corelli and LeClair. Admission is $8 general, $6 seniors and $3 students. Please call ext. SHOW. 8 p.m. Arts Center Concert Hall.

Returning once again to Mead Chapel, David Wilcox will provide an evening of folk music. Admission is $8 general, $5 students. Sponsored by MCAB. 9 p.m. Mead Chapel.

SATURDAY: Sopranos Carol Christensen, Beth Thompson Kaiser and Tenor Wayne Hobbs combine to form Trois Voix, in collaboration with pianists Pamela McClain and Emory Fanning for a performance of solos, duets and trios from the art song and operatic repertoire. 8 p.m. Arts Center Concert Hall.

Hosted by WRMC, Brainerd and Thomas Commons, and the Gamut Room, EEF, Karioke Hustler and Middlebury's own Super Hussy promise a musical three-stepper. 9 p.m. Pearsons Lounge.

SUNDAY: Musical trio Chris Velan '96, Justin Cook '95 and Taylor Mahony '96 provide an alternative study break. 10 p.m. Gamut Room.

MONDAY: One of America's leading performers on early keyboard instruments, Gwendolyn Toth, will play works by J.S. Bach on the organ. 8 p.m. Mead Chapel.

Wednesday: Have a cappuccino while watching The Jazz Mandolin Project. 10 p.m. Gamut Room.

Letters to Cleo speaks at career turning point

By Mike Liss and Dave Enslee

In February, Mike Liss caught up with Letters to Cleo, a Boston-based band which has recently risen to national attention with their song "Here and Now," which appears on the "Melrose Place" soundtrack LP. Interviewing band members Kay Hanley and Michael Eisensten before their appearance at "The Pickle Barrel" in Killington, right as the single was breaking, *The Campus* asked the band to reflect on the possibilities which lay ahead, as well as the re-release of their album *Aurora Gory Alice*.

The Campus: This is the beginning of your tour. What's different about this tour?

Michael Eisenstein: Well, we don't know yet. It's exactly the same so far.

Kay Hanley: It's the longest one yet.

C: You've gotten a lot of play off of "Here and Now." Do you feel a sense of anticipation?

K: Definitely. On all of our other tours, who showed up to our gigs totally depended on luck, on where we were on what night. Maybe somebody would come. This time it might be that people will come who actually want to see us.

C: How did "Here and Now" end up on "Melrose Place?"

M: We had been meeting with Giant Records and a few other record labels and they were telling us what they had going on on the label to get us interested, and one of the things they mentioned was the "Melrose Place" soundtrack. It would have Dinosaur Jr. and Urge Overkill on it. And we were like, "Ooh, can we be on it?" So we recorded "Here and Now" all over again because we knew the record guy really liked that song. And we sent it out. And they were like, "Cool, we're into it, the Spelling people are into it. It's on." And we were like, "Yes!"

C: Do you guys even watch the show?

M: Oh yeah. But we missed it this past Monday for the first time in a really long time.

C: So you're glad you're on it?

K: We've made so many mistakes in the past so there's not many things that we'll do that we wouldn't absolutely want to do. We don't make dumb mistakes like doing stuff that we don't want to do anymore.

C: How did the album end up being re-released?

M: We're on a new record label and it was one of the things we wanted to do. When we were out on tours in the past, we had always found that our record was not out in the stores. If we did play for six people in Lincoln, Nebraska, and they liked us, they couldn't even go out and buy our album because it wasn't in the stores in Lincoln, Nebraska. So we said to our new record label, "Could you help our old record along while we do a little more touring and we make a new album?" And they were into it. Our new record label has provided the funding and marketing help to our old independent label in Boston, Chairs, to give this record some life outside of Boston.

C: How have sales been of the new release?

M: Very encouraging. We're very excited. We've sold more in 1995 so far than we've sold in all of 1994.

C: And have you been working on a new album?

M: We just finished. We're still mixing. But we've finished the recording at this time.

C: Do you have a name for it yet?

M: We don't know. We sorta did. But then it kinda went down.

K: We might start from scratch.

M: We've gotten trouble for saying the name of the record before.

K: And it's not going to be out until at least May.

C: So that means you're going to have a good summer.

M: Looking ahead, hopefully. We actually expect the record will come out this summer.

C: How has the Boston scene been? What was it like coming up through it?

K: It's been amazing. It's the best music scene in the country. By far. Bar none.

C: What other Boston bands have you been associated with?

K: Gigolo Aunts, Dambuilders, Flying Nun, Dirt Merchants, Fuzzy, Morphine...

C: So is everyone cool with watching other bands take off when you might not be?

M: We've been completely supportive. We have been that way for years and every time a band got signed or went on tour we've been really psyched. And I think most of the bands are like that. It's just a real community. You just open the floodgates for more music to come out of Boston. We've been sort of stagnant since The Cars, as far as a band doing really well.

K: People like The Pixies have denied any involvement [in the Boston scene], the Lemonheads, too.

C: Would you like the extreme alternative, like Seattle? Where six big bands get famous and the scene just dries up?

K: Oh no.

M: Boston has been consistent.

K: I think what happened to Seattle was terrible. I would never wish that on anyone. Boston has always had a quiet, consistent, steady stream of artists having success.

M: Talented bands, great bands, but no hits. The bands have always been good, but not in a long time have they been able to get national exposure.

C: What was it like doing your first video, for "Here and Now?"

K: It was a lot of fun. But, I mean, I really hate that crap. I'm just not good at it.

M: We did it with the guy who directed all those Green Day videos He just made it really low pressure.

C: What was the concept of the video?

M: Us playing the song. Some slimy animals. That was about it. We had some eels, some frogs, stuff like that.

C: Is there any sense of movement in doing your fisrst video?

M: Yes. It was a professional situation. There was a lot of money being spent to make this little movie to let people know about our song.

C: So it was more than just a necessary evil, it was a good thing?

M: No, it's just a necessary evil, but as Tom Petty said on TV the other day, since you have to do them, you might as well have fun.

C: So are you psyched for this tour?

M: Yes I am. Believe it or not, I think it's going to be a good one.

K: I am not. I want to go home right now.

C: Why?

K: Because I just quit smoking and I'm freaking out.

C: Where would you guys say you are right now? On the road to exposure and success?

M: We're at that elusive place where so many bands get. Actually, we got a little further than most bands.

Anything can happen, the sky's the limit, because we got a song on the radio. We're the first step out of the major label deal.

"Harold" fills Gamut Room with raucous tomfoolery

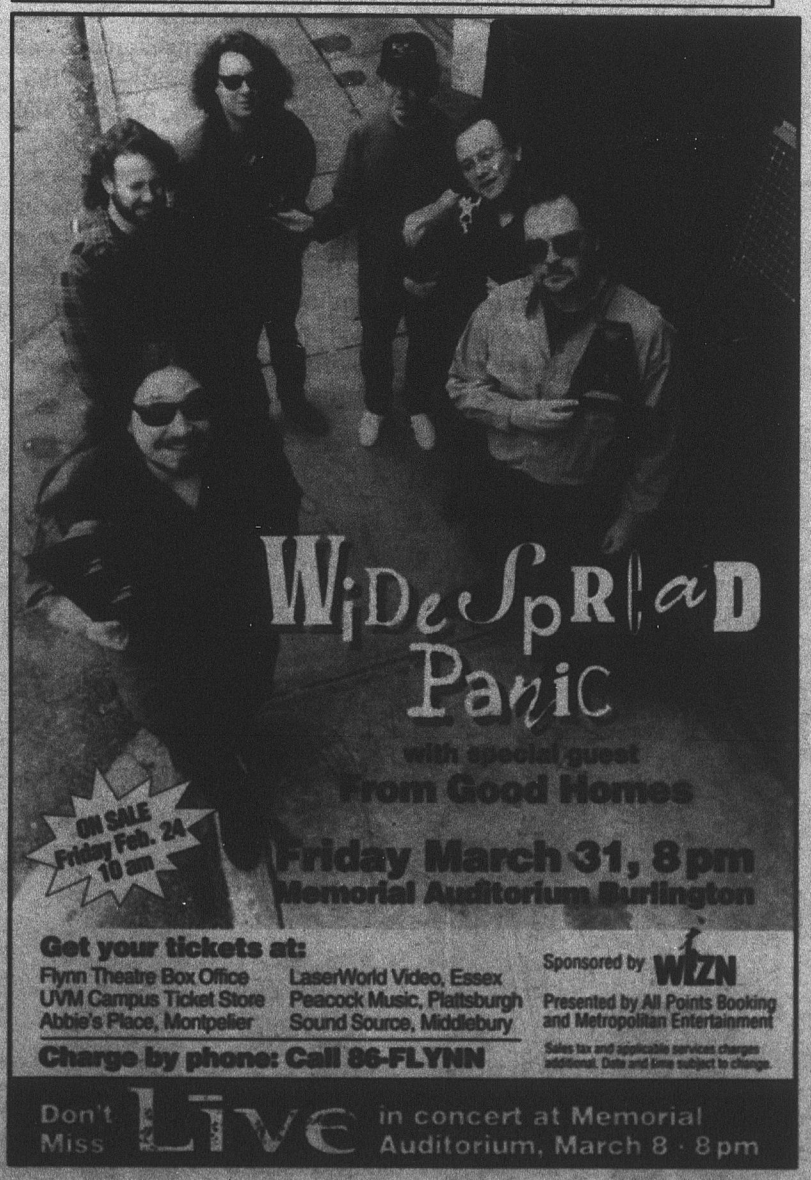
Caroline Griffith

Emma Ansara '96 *acts out audience member Ryan D'Agostino's improv phrase "Born To Run" as she pretends to be a woman running around in labor. Fellow Otter Dan O'Brien '96 readies himself to catch the little bundle of joy. The Otter Nonsense Players performed at the Gamut Room last Thursday in a loosely-structured improv they affectionally call "Harold."*

WRMC TOP TEN

1. PJ Harvey- *To Bring You My Love*
2. Guided By Voices- *Box*
3. Throwing Muses- *University*
4. Bettie Serveert- *Lamprey*
5. Pearl Jam- *Vitalogy*
6. Hover- *Almost Everything*
7. 18th Dye- *Done*
8. The Jayhawks- *Tomorrow the Green Grass*
9. Archers of Loaf- *Vee Vee*
10. Pretty Mighty Mighty- *Ugly*

* list compiled from top ten CDs receiving the most air time this week at WRMC


WiDeSpRead
Panic
with special guest
From Good Homes
ON SALE
Friday Feb. 24
10 am
Friday March 31, 8 pm
Memorial Auditorium Burlington
Get your tickets at:
Flynn Theatre Box Office
UVM Campus Ticket Store
Abbie's Place, Montpelier
LaserWorld Video, Essex
Peacock Music, Plattsburgh
Sound Source, Middlebury
Charge by phone: Call 86-FLYNN
Sponsored by WIZN
Presented by All Points Booking and Metropolitan Entertainment
Sales tax and applicable services charges additional. Date and time subject to change.
Don't Miss LIVE in concert at Memorial Auditorium, March 8 · 8 pm

GENERATION X

Is Middlebury under a haunting stereotype of our time?

Sarah de Guzman

Hanging out and partying are activities that "experts" often associate with Generation X-ers.

Each generation carries its own label which characterizes the general aspects of society during that time; the Baby Boomers born in the '40s, for instance, carried their own baggage of being spoiled and conformed. After World War II, people realized that they could get what they wanted, and hence, the American dream! This resulted in the era of the late 1950s and early '60s which brought about suburbia, McCarthyism and the rebel teen spirit of James Dean and Elvis. Each of these developments was a product of the generation, which meshed their attitudes, beliefs and goals to create a certain ideal which was carried out. The creation of new generations is exciting to watch, as only time will tell what the result will be.

This time, however, no one seems to be quite sure what the result is. We twenty-somethings have so many different interests, so many different backgrounds and experiences and so little in common that we have as yet to even be given a name. Will we always be known as Generation X? What makes our generation so different from any other that we cannot even be given a name? Are we really a group that has no identity or direction?

The powers that be seem to consider us shiftless, lost, apathetic and unwilling to do anything to change our situation. Is that really what we are? We are the generation who grew up watching our parents put in 60 hour weeks for almost no reward. We also watched our parents divorce at an alarming rate.

While we witnessed no U.S. involvement in wars until the invasion in Kuwait, we watched murder statistics and unemployment skyrocket as well. How did these events effect us? How should these events have effected us?

Are we a generation completely defined by our relation to past events, or do our own attitudes and opinions contribute to our nameless identity? What are our opinions, and do they really differ that radically from those of the generations of the '20s or '50s or '70s? Are our views altered because we see the future in a different manner than that of our predecessors? We seem to have more to worry about. Suddenly, we're realizing that the natural resourses on our earth will not last forever. We have a national debt and war-torn neighbors. What sort of future are we inheriting from our mentors?

Needless to say, our generation sees the world in a way that no other generation has, and the way that we live our lives will differ from any other generation. So who are we, and how do we define ourselves? This week In-Depth

'Twenty-somethings' search for meanings within the future

By Jennifer Varney

There are millions of questions that every Generation X-er has heard. One of the most frequent could possibly be "So, what do you want to do with yourself?" Or perhaps, "Have you given any thought as to what you'll be going into after graduation?" Whatever form it takes, the message is bold and unmistakable: We have a future and we had better be planning for it from the day we turn 12.

Specifically though, the question remains: What do twenty-somethings want to do with their futures, and is it any different from what older generations have wanted to do? Why has this generation been targeted as a question mark?

One of my favorite things to do in the present is to look through my mother's high school yearbook. The differences between her classmates and mine seem phenomenal.

Next to the portraits of all the seniors in my mother's class, they were all asked to place, along with their activities and favorite quote, their greatest goal for the rest of their life.

The responses from most of the women always astound me. "I want to marry a sailor." "I want to have three beautiful children." "I want a big house in the country." Not one "I want to be a leader in the career field of my choice." Not "I want to start my own business from my basement and expand until I have outlets in every major city in the western world." All that was listed were simply things like family, home, husband.

I think I can safely say that this is at least one change in attitude between now and the Baby Boomer generation.

When I graduated from high school, it was obvious that none of my friends were even beginning to think about raising a family.

There were, of course, the normal amount of teenage pregnancies, but I'm not convinced that's such a change from the '50s and '60s.

If after high school graduation we were not thinking of raising a family, then what were we thinking of? Careers? College? Nothing at all? That is after all one of the foremost stereotypes of our generation; that we are all shiftless and lazy and don't care about our futures.

"'Don't postpone joy to scrub the bathroom or clean the garage.' That seems to be the philosophy of many: Have fun now because the work will always be there, and it can always be done."

I can hardly believe that anyone who has ever had a conversation with a Generation X-ers can agree with that, unless it is one of those women whose only future consisted of her family.

Of course, our future does seem to exist in our families somewhat. For Generation X-ers have watched their fathers work themselves to the bone, perhaps putting in 60 hours a week or more, and for what? To get laid-off?

As we see it, that's the hard reality, and it doesn't seem worth the effort. Generation X-ers are not willing to live at the office without rewards.

There is a multitude of goals desired: We want to have a life outside work; we want to spend time with our families and our friends, we want to accomplish something to the best of our abilities. We don't want to have a 50% divorce rate.

The sentiment expressed by junior Meghan Duff was one of not wanting to wait for her life to take shape.

"I want to do something that makes me happy along the way," Duff stated. "Not someday in the future."

Twenty-somethings know what is important to them, and whether it's work, home or a balance of both, they don't want to wait for it. As a popular slogan now hypes: Life is too short. Play hard.

Another popular poster in several dorm rooms on campus gives us a list of rules for living our lives, one of which is "Don't postpone joy to scrub the bathroom or clean the garage." That seems to exemplify the philosophy of many: Have fun now because the work will always be there, and it can always be done.

Maybe we're not so different from the women in my mother's graduating class after all.

Perhaps they knew what we needed to find out – that life is more than work. But then, perhaps they needed to learn that life is more than home.

With our newfound wisdom, it is sure that our futures will differ radically from our parents. Many of the questions that we face, and even the ones that we take for granted, were never present in earlier generations. Perhaps we'll even be able to achieve what other past generations have been looking for, whatever that may be.

But whatever we may find, it's certain that we will go about it in our own distinct manner, and we will certainly blaze our own trail through the foundation laid by those that have gone before and leave our footprints for those who come after.

'Pulp Fiction' creates cult-like bond

By Geoff Hanzlik

The label "Generation X" seems to be found in all of our actions. Implicit in how we think and within the issues with which we struggle, there exists the faint echo reminding us of who we are. It seems to be more a general hermeneutic which can be applied to anything than a direct factual perspective, much in the same sense of Freud or Phallic symbolism: take Nordic skiing, for instance, and just apply the Freudian reading. Ah, the brazen, hardened steel poles thrusting slowly yet steadily into the virgin snow, as the smooth, sticky bottom of the skis lovingly caress the shapely, eager hills. Fascinating.

But how can we characterize our generation? The label 'X' seems a bit lacking, as a mere letter does not do us justice — it could be expanded upon a bit. But what should it represent, or what, rather, might represent us? Someone mentioned last week that we lack any unification to bring us together, much like the 1960's, but I tended to disagree. While they had the Tet Offensive, Vietnam drafts, civil right confrontations, and student idealism, we hold two true, exciting icons which form an unreleasing covalent bond among us: Pulp Fiction and The Simpsons (Homer, not O.J., although you could form an indubitable case for the latter).

These two productions have formed a cult-like following and acceptance among our generation, and have come to be received much in the same right as the Cosby Show, Cindy Lauper and Ronald Reagan in the 1980's. So I would wager to say that in some way they represent us. The only question is how?

Amidst the twisted and demented humor found in accidental

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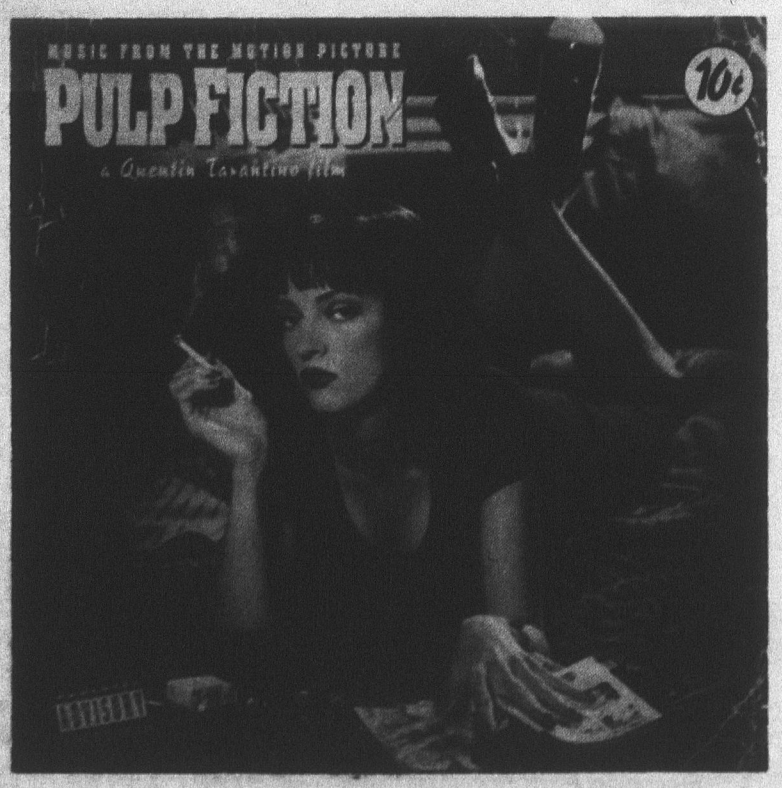


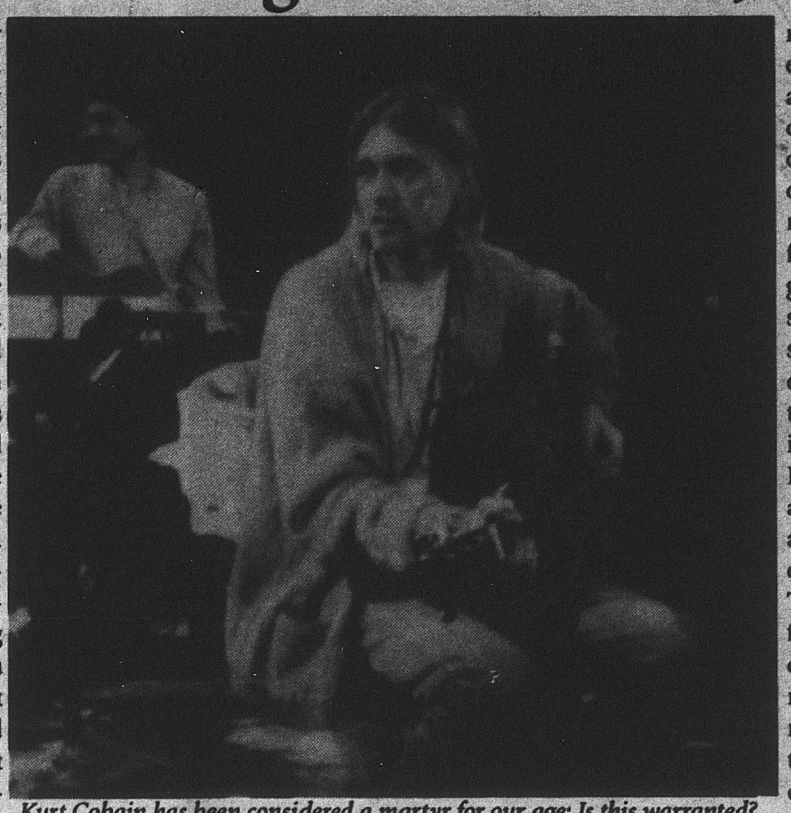
Generation X's heroes emerge from battles, not musical talent

By Stephanie Hanson

Generation X. The words bring to mind a profusion of images relating to alternative music, alternative dress and alternative attitudes. A generation lost and confused, disenchanted and displeased with the world around it. So who could be the spokespeople for such a generation? Who are the heroes? Perhaps an even better question would be, are there any heroes?

Some people suggest Kurt Cobain as a leader of this generation. No one can deny the tremendous effect he had on the music business, changing the face of popular music for what could be years to come. He is without doubt a musical icon and perhaps, to some, a martyr, but to call him a hero of an entire generation would be a gross exaggeration. It would be more accurate to define him as a leader or a spokesman of a sub-culture existing within the so-called Generation X. The same could be said of Eddie Vedder or Trent Renzor, both incredible musical artists in their own right, but once again, can we really define our generation by the music we listen to?

Ah, but you say, look at our parents' generation. Did they not define themselves by their music? I agree to a certain extent they did indeed. One only has to look as far as Jimi Hendrix, the Rolling Stones or Bob Dylan to find heroes of the '60s and '70s. But there is an essential difference between past generations and ours, dating all the way back to the beginning of the twentieth century. They all had a rallying cause, an outside force banding them together as a unified group. First there was World War I and the Great Depression, followed by World War II, the Korean War, the Civil Rights movement in the '50s and '60s and finally the Vietnam War. Most of the popular music of our parents generation contained anti-war themes.



Kurt Cobain has been considered a martyr for our age: Is this warranted?

It was not just music that unified a generation, as was demonstrated at the Kent State rally in which the national guard fired on young protesters, or look at the civil rights movement and the assassination of Martin Luther King, Jr. These events exemplify the common thread binding past generations together.

The United States has not seen such divisive issues in twenty years. No longer does there exist a common enemy, an external force against which our generation can rally. Without this common thread, the focus of our generation seems to have shifted from an external orientation to a more internal one. People now talk about individuality and self-expression. They dress differently and act differently to make statements about their independence and individuality rather than to protest anything in particular, except for maybe the status quo. In such a diverse, diffused generation, it is impossible for one person to stand out as a hero or representative of the entire culture.

If there are no heroes for our entire generation, I decided it would be interesting to find out from some of the Generation X-ers themselves who their personal heroes are. I heard everyone from mom and dad to Toni Morrison to Yassar Arafat. In fact, the only people repeated more than two times were parents, especially fathers, so maybe there isn't such a wide generation gap after all.

Unfortunately, I also heard repeatedly that there are no heroes or "I haven't really thought about it." Such a lack of enthusiasm and interest more than likely contributes to the reputation Generation X has for being apathetic and lost.

Perhaps it is time for our generation to finally take up the fight for something worthwhile. With issues like poverty and crime ripping apart our nation internally, it is not as though there isn't anything to fight for or against.

Right now all that is needed is a spark to ignite the fires of passion dormant within our generations' hearts.

Looking back one hundred years from now, the heroes of this generation will be those who were able to ignite those sparks. After all, no generations seek out their heroes, they emerge naturally from the battles their generations choose to fight.

Middlebury supercedes blatant 'X' stereotypes

By Alison Garfield

The term Generation X gained popularity in 1990, and since then the media and the generation known as the "Baby-Boomers" have been unrelenting in their generalizations, coining the age group currently in their twenties as "slackers."

According to Arlinda Wickland, Dean of Students, such a generalization cannot be applied to students at Middlebury. Wickland noted, "Our current generation of students has taken on the challenge of setting things right."

She disagrees with stereotypes made by the media, pointing to the growing number of environmental studies majors as evidence of the students' dedication to the world and their growing concern for the future.

John Hunisak of the Art Department agrees with Wickland, remarking that his current students appear no less dedicated than in previous years. He maintains that those students he works closely with "are very involved in their studies and have a genuine concern for their plans after graduation."

Hunisak does acknowledge the "level of discouragement" among those graduates looking for jobs. However, he remarked that none of them have surrendered. Rather, they have pursued other areas and "have gone out and gotten involved."

Mitchell Smith of the Political Science department also agrees, stating that students "are willing to explore a wider variety of options before launching into a career," pointing to a "higher level of awareness" among the twenty-something generation. Many students echo the thoughts of the faculty. James McGrath '98 concluded, "We are willing to do something about the world's problems." He contended that students at Middlebury are very involved and show a concern for world affairs.

According to Sherr Lo '98, Middlebury students "know what they are capable of and are willing to make changes." Roxanne Matthews '96 believes that among students at Middlebury she sees dedication, explaining, "When I know people who are trying to make changes, it is hard for me to see the apathy."

Many students believe that the tag placed on Generation X is a poor excuse, and see stereotypes such as apathy and lack of motivation as "just label," which lead to the deduction that students cannot possibly know what they want to do for the rest of their lives at such a young age. However, many students challenge Boudakian's views. Naomi Schaeffer '98 finds that students at Middlebury "have a lack of desire for any type of discussion." Some state that when you ask most Middlebury students why they attend college, their first response will not be for academic reasons. Students question getting a degree at all if they know how poor the job market will be after graduation. Marie D'Amato '96 understands such fears, suggesting that a lot of students "feel they cannot do much better than their parents."

Some Middlebury students, however, see all the hype surrounding Generation X as relative. Tiffany Bean '98 concluded that if students do not take a stand and prove the media wrong, they will only be proving them right. "All my life," says Bean, "people have told me I can change the world. If I believe it, I know I can."

Heather B. Thompson

A professor and student collaborate on academic ideas: Is the gap unbreachable, or does a common ground exist?

'Pulp Fiction' reveals youth criticism

(continued from page 23)

shootings and heroine overdoses, it has come to our recognition that nothing remains shocking or overwhelming; we have become a generation, and culture, accustomed to such events.

Indeed, we can take the movie for what it is — blood, violence, drugs — but I argue it's more than that; the movie displayed exciting creativity which shed a new light on old issues.

And consider the fact that it contained no nudity or sex. Such is old hat for us, and if anything, the movie demonstrates our growing critical and creative nature. Within much of the identity crisis haunting our lives, we could sit back and break from the issues with which we are dealing.

And the Simpsons, televised one whole hour every night for our viewing pleasure, offers an enlightened, satiric look at the negative attitudes which attempt to shape our everyday lives.

Look past the surface, if there is one, and you'll see a truthful side which represents a creative and humorous criticism of society. Take the "Malibu Stacey" episode in which little Lisa attempts to change the image of a doll which contributes negatively toward the view of women.

"The old doll, when the string was pulled, repeated phrases such as 'I don't have an opinion, I'm just a girl...' and 'Thinking causes wrinkles...'"

The old doll, when the string was pulled, repeated phrases such as, "I don't have an opinion, I'm just a girl" and "Thinking causes wrinkles." Lisa takes the situation by the horns, marketing a new doll which chants nifty maxims, like "Believe in yourself and you can accomplish anything."

So what does this say about us? Well, I'd argue that we're a bit more self-reflecting and critical than many give us. We are able to step back and see the hideous and blasphemous ideals of past generations and work from them.

Indeed, identity is somewhat difficult to locate within the times, but not impossible.

Stereotypes of our generation only lead to excuses, and thus it's better to ignore it all.

So next time someone throws some label about being directionless and without identity, tell them what the doll would say, "Believe in yourself..."

Men's hockey team rolls into postseason

(continued from page 28)

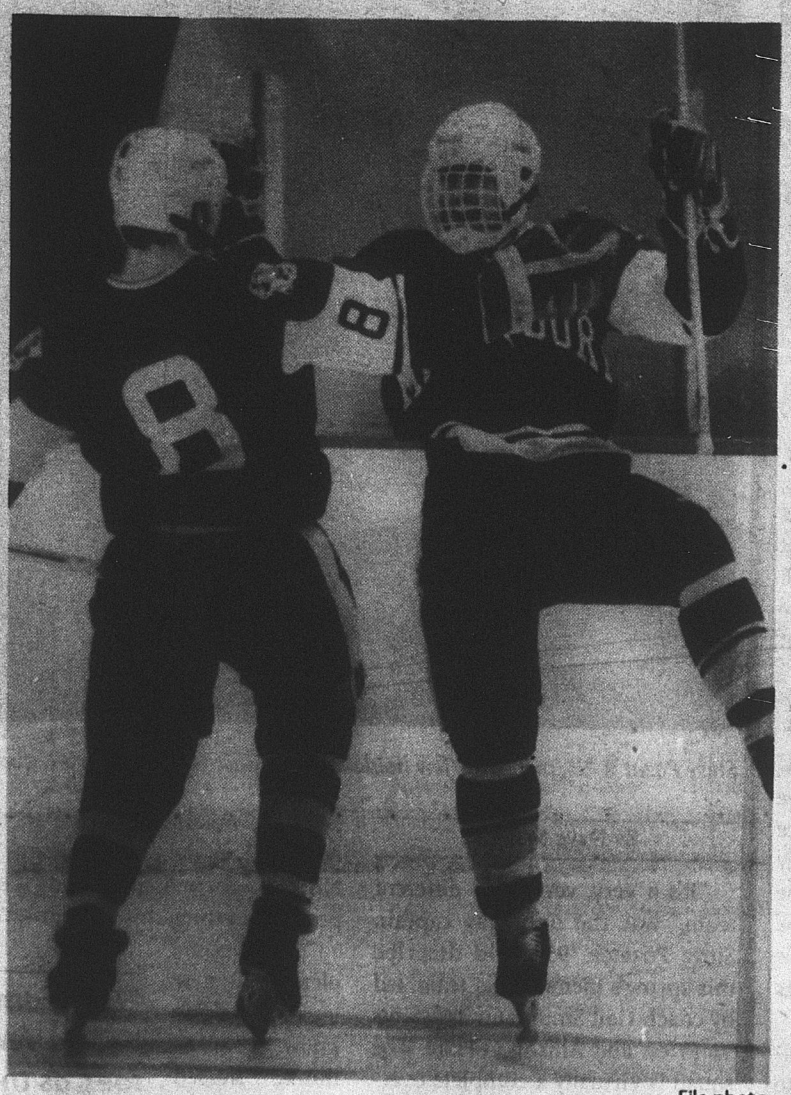
Offensive highlights of the season include a double blowout of American International College (AIC), 12-0 and 11-1, a 12-0 trouncing of Wesleyan and a 10-0 flattening of St. Anselm. Individually, Marc Belliveau '97, Mike Anastasio '97, Sebastien Bilodeau '97 and Dave Erickson '96 all turned in hat tricks, while Smith rang up four two-goal games, and Anastasio and Joe Dumas '95 chipped in with three two-goal games apiece.

The Panther defense was anchored by league-leading goaltending. First-year phenoms Chris Farion and Francois Bourbeau split time between the pipes with unbelievable success. The two goalies shared three shutouts between them, with each stonewalling the opposition once, as well as teaming up on Wesleyan on January 17. Bourbeau finished the season by setting an ECAC goals-against-average record, allowing a scant 1.74 goals per game. Farion, with a tremendous season of his own, and an equally sparse 2.43 goals-against average, will force Beaney to choose between two deserving starters. The penalty killing teams were also exceptionally effective, killing off 88.4% of all power-plays, while capitalizing on 23.3% of their own man advantages.

The preponderance of Wisconsin teams in the tournament is quite impressive, as the Dairy State has three entries in this year's competition.

Teams from Stevens Point, River Falls and Superior are all in the running for the championship, with two of those three old hands at it. Stevens Point has won four titles in the past six years, while River Falls is the defending champion, having ousted Superior in last year's final game, 6-4.

Middlebury, however, is not fazed in the least. The Panthers are by no means invincible, but they learned about losing early in the season when they dropped two out of three decisions, one to Trinity in overtime, and the other to Alabama-Huntsville, a loss which was quickly avenged next day — and have not had a similar slump since. The games against Plattsburgh will take place at Middlebury's own Nelson Arena, with both the Friday and Saturday night games kicking off at 7 p.m.



File photo

Hopefully Ian Smith '95 and company will be dancing like this again soon.

Track shines at ECACs, looks ahead

(continued from page 28)

other to ever-stronger performances. Early in the season, Oberg broke the school record, only to have Hetherington re-take the record at New Englands. At ECACs, however, Oberg's performance exploded to new heights. She set not only a personal record, but retook the school record by four feet with a throw of 42' 10".

Reflecting on the throw, Oberg observed, "All the training I did this winter went into that throw. Everything came together." Oberg's throw placed her seventh in a competitive field.

Despite a nagging cold, Hetherington placed a strong tent and proved her resilience by coming within 2" of her personal best. Oberg remarked, "Janine would have been throwing in the forties if she had been healthy." No doubt the friendly rivalry will continue on in the spring as the two continue to push each other and set new records.

In the distance events, the women broke their own share of personal records. Carly Vynne '97 cruised across the line in the 3000 meter run with a time of 10:35.72, besting her personal record by a full nine seconds. She placed sixth overall, a feat made even more impressive considering she had lowered her time in the 3K by 20 seconds two weeks earlier.

Fellow distance runner Katie Masselam '98 decided to pull all the plugs and bulleted home in the 1500-meter run to the tune of eighth place, lowering her personal record by five seconds to 4:51. She also qualified provisionally for Nationals, an accomplishment almost unheard of for a first-year.

Rebekah Fletcher '98 took on New England's best in the 800 meter run. Recovering from a tough cold, she nonetheless clocked a frisky 2:30.50, just five seconds off her best time. Unfortunately Perelandra Tory '96 suffered a bad day, but she will be back in the spring.

With all these young competitors gunning at no-longer-safe records, not only will records topple, but so will competing teams.

If the Panthers continue trimming their times and improving their results over the spring track season, they may end up doing just that, and surprising more than themselves.

March Madness to...?

An alternative sports commentary by Ethan Skerry

March, having entered like a lion, has also brought with it the commencement of that month-long celebration of collegiate basketball talent known colloquially as March Madness. Now is the time for our nation's youngsters to display their skills and athleticism on national television, on screens across the world; now is the time for a reawakening of feelings of connection with this school or that, depending on geographical proximity or family tradition. Now we shall don the colors of schools more familiar to us as cultivators of athletes than bastions of intellectualism, cheering with all of our collective might. Now we shall worship the people we only wished we once could have been.

Hyperactive announcers have been salivating in anticipation of this moment, studying the idiosyncrasies of the players that have proven themselves over the season past, endeavoring to determine the strengths and weaknesses of various teams.

Prognosticators and all other sports fans inevitably join their ranks, imagine different scenarios based on the tournament grid, what teams will finally play one another, what stars will, at last, have the opportunity to prove their mettle in competition with one another, what school will ultimately end up atop the college pyramid waving their number one ranking like a banner in the air, signaling high school players across the country to aspire to its height in choosing a school with which to sign. All of these often foreshadowed events will come to pass by month's end (at least by the first week of April). You wait. You watch, You marvel.

And then, when the last fan has left the once-raucous arena, when the last banner has been folded up and placed in the cupboard to hibernate for the off-season, when the intoxication of the playoffs has run its course and the sporting public returns to sobriety, there you will sit amid countless empty cans in your living room or TV lounge. Your eyes aching from hours of stationary absorption of television images, your mind reeling from the endless reels of highlights from the tournament, your ears still sore from listening to Dick Vitale's melodramatics, you sit alone on your sofa. Perhaps you have won, perhaps lost. But you feel little change; other than the languorous malaise that pervades your motionless body, you feel nothing.

Some young man just about your age has risen to national fame before your own eyes; some person has secured his place in athletic history, has guaranteed himself financial stability, a house, a following of devoted fans. Thanks to your television you have been a part of it, as if a beam used in the erection of an enormous skyscraper. Yet all you have to show for it are a pair of bloodshot eyes and a sense that you have decreased your intellectual capacity. This was the moment for which you had been waiting. He has accomplished all that. You ask yourself, what have I accomplished? You wince.

ESPN's painfully catchy slogans are now too familiar to your ears; its sportscasters too intimately associated with your daily existence. Dick Vitale, archfiend among these demons, has bellowed relentlessly in your ears the touching stories of these "kids" whom you have watched.

"He loves to dish the rock," you respond when someone so much as mentions the name of Alan Iverson, so brainwashed have you become at the unforgiving hands of Dicky V. "Respect can flat out shoot the rock," and other inane phrases repeated ad nauseam become implanted in your mind; a few weeks later, the madness of March replaced by the aftermath of April, you are involved in one of those too-male sports conversations and find yourself singing the praises of someone you know only by the informative grace of some announcer or other. You only pause a moment as you consider that everyone else is caught in the same conversational trap, but you are too intent on disgorging your information. You continue blindly.

Glorious days these are ahead of us indeed, you think as you listen to the smart-assed turns of phrase of announcers, look at the appealing headlines in Sports Illustrated. This is always a memorable month. Though soon it shall be over and all will be as it was before, you would not trade it for the world. This is it. Let the monotony begin; perhaps we would regret it if we knew any better, if we realized that it makes little difference and provides little more than conversational fodder. But we will always have our team, our Orangemen, our Wildcats; or, maybe they will always have us.

Correction: *Last week's alpine article contained incorrect information. We apologize and regret the errors.*

Wanna go to sports games and
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$149 Round Trip (Special Student Rate)
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Sports in our Time

Doug Tsao

As opening day looms on the horizon, the baseball strike is still unresolved. The negotiations are in a constant state of one step forward, two steps back. The players have made some concessions, although they are not enough for the owners.

Both sides seem to think that opening day will help their cause. The owners are bolstered by polls which seem to indicate that the public feels that baseball players make too much money and their strike is based solely on greed. These findings have stiffened the resolve of the owners to try to push the players as hard as possible.

The players are betting that fans will not pay to see replacement baseball. More importantly, the players are betting that the fans will not watch replacement baseball even if it is free (i.e. via television or radio).

With the way things are going, however, fans might not even be given a choice in the matter. Already, television and radio stations are balking at the idea of carrying replacement games. New York's WABC Radio has canceled all of the Yankee spring training schedule that it was supposed to carry. New York's WFAN Sports Radio, which was scheduled to air ten games, has already begun canceling broadcasts of games. The Mets are displeased and are going to force WFAN to broadcast the ten games that the Mets feel WFAN is contractually obligated to carry. Apparently, WFAN is waiting to see if the strike is resolved, hoping to then carry ten "real" games.

It seems unlikely, however, that the strike will be resolved before opening day. Both sides feel that fan reaction will force the other side to cave in. So, it looks like the Mets may have to take WFAN to court and force the station to broadcast ten replacement games. WFAN argues that they signed a contract to broadcast major league baseball games and that the replacement games are not major league games. Fortunately, at least, the Mets do not have the audacity to argue that the games are major league quality. They know that the replacement games stink and make no bones about it.

This fact is revealing. Do the owners believe that we, as fans, are so stupid that the level of play will not matter to us? Do they have the gall to think that we are the mindless masses who will take whatever they give us? It strikes me as a rather arrogant business practice.

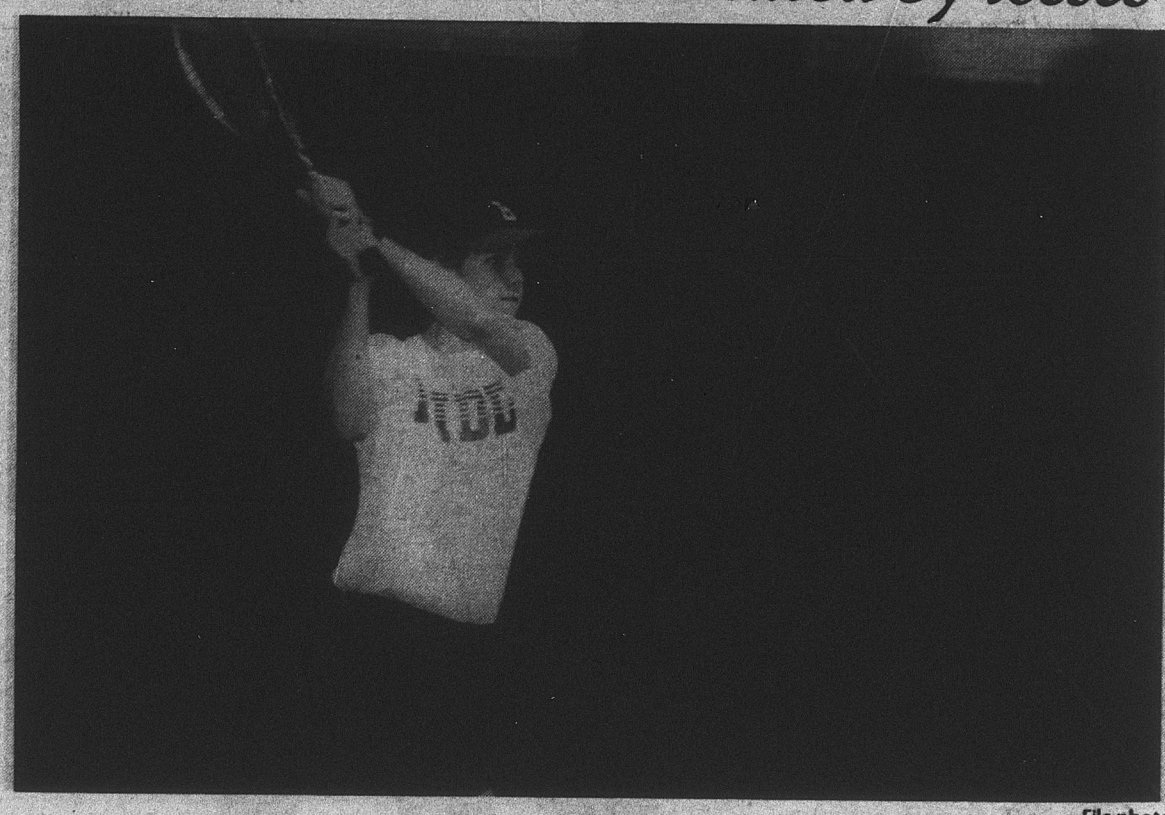
If it does go to litigation, it will be interesting to see how the issue is resolved by the court. Personally, I hope that the court rules in favor of WFAN. This would set a precedent for other television and radio stations to begin canceling regular season replacement games too.

If this happens, the owners' position in the talks would be crippled. Without baseball revenues and no money from gate receipts (if attendance at replacement spring-training games are any indication), then the owners would stand to lose millions.

I bet the players are right in this respect and people won't watch replacement baseball even if it is carried by radio and television stations. Consider this, in the first months of the baseball season, both the NHL and NBA playoffs will have begun. Seriously, who is going to watch a collection of has-beens and never-weres, when they could be watching the New York Knicks march to their first championship since 1973? Does George Steinbrenner expect me to watch the "best replacement team money can buy" when I could be watching Mark Messier lead the New York Rangers to a second consecutive Stanley Cup Championship? I love my Yanks, but it turns my stomach to think that some bus driver is wearing the same uniform as Joey D, the Babe, the Iron Horse or Donnie Baseball.

If I am right on this bet, then I expect the owners to give in to the players sometime in the third week of April. I am less sure about this than the fact that people won't watch replacement baseball. The owners are all very rich men — no matter what Bud Selig says — and they may be willing to wait even longer. They might be willing to risk millions on the belief that the players' union will tear itself apart. If that is the case, then the strike may last until late June. If it goes that long, then I am not willing to bet on who will cave first.

Men's tennis team decimated by losses



File photo

Steve Pozatek '95, one of the few holdovers from last year's team, rips a backhand in a pre-season practice game.

By Dave Mallick

"It's a very, very, very different team," was the only way captain Steve Pozatek '95 could describe this spring's men's tennis team, led by coach Gail Smith and assistants Ty Priest and Allison O'Hare. The squad is virtually a complete overhaul since last year, with a scant three people returning from last season's team.

Three seniors graduated, two people from fall tennis decided not to come out for the spring season, so Pozatek, Adam Coldsnow '97 and Fred Berner '95 are the only holdovers from last year's squad. And of those three, only two actually played in the fall, as Pozatek was sidelined with a knee injury. Still, Coldsnow and Berner managed to show the ropes to a new wave of rookie players.

Aran Wong '97, a promising transfer student from the University of California at San Diego led the way for the rookies in the fall season, followed by first-years P.J. Smith, Dave Bornhoeft and Adam Green. Joining the team this spring will be Kip Diggs '98, Andrew Mahlstedt '98 and Khaled Saffouri '96, who, while not new to Middlebury tennis, did not play on the team this past fall.

Last spring's team was actually quite successful, placing 21st in the country and third in NESCACs, narrowly missing an invite to the next level, as the first two teams in NESCAC got invited. Nobody is expecting anything this year, however.

"It's a completely new team; we don't know what to think," mused Pozatek. "We're not going to set any records; we just want to have guys that want to play."

> ***"The team could still surprise a few intra-league foes, as the doubles team of Pozatek and Coldsnow is one of the best, if not the best, in the NESCAC..."***

The team could still surprise a few intra-league rivals, as the doubles team of Pozatek and Coldsnow is one of the best, if not the best, in the NESCAC, and it is not out of the realm of possibility that they get invited to the national meet, although it is doubtful that they would go should they be invited and the team: not.

Regardless, without expectations come the biggest surprises, and with Middlebury hosting the NESCACs from April 28-30, the hometown crowd could be witness to a few of them.

The team kicks off its season with its annual spring break trip to Hilton Head Island, South Carolina, and then will travel down to Tufts in Medford to open the spring campaign against the Jumbos on April 2.

Women's lax strengthens in preseason

(continued from page 28)

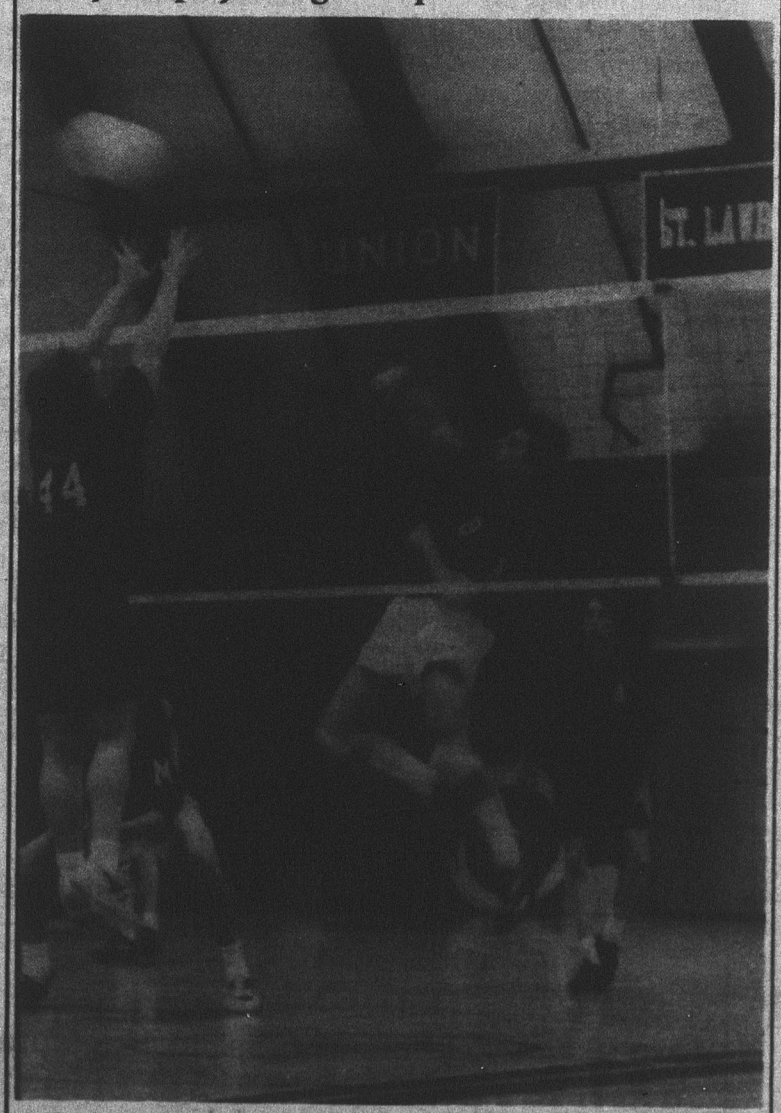
polls put Middlebury at second place nationally, even overshooting William Smith, the last victim of Trenton State's fearsome attack. "They absolutely killed William Smith last year in the final game," remembers Martin. Apparently having given the Jersey powerhouse a better fight counts in the eyes of the NCAA officials. However, Martin acknowledges that the team is "going to be a target. We've got to prove that last year wasn't a fluke, that we're just as good this year."

The mix of younger players and experienced veterans looks to be perfectly set up for an even better run at a playoff spot this year, as the five seniors are balanced by four first-year students and one transfer student, so the team is seeing as many coming as they are going. "It's good to be able to work with one another," commented Martin, later adding "It'll be nice to be in Florida, be outside, practice our defensive zones, get our footing on the grass," referring to the team's upcoming annual trip to St. Petersburg.

Also in St. Petersburg at that time will be opponents Stanford and Trinity, and the team will also be scrimmaging against Wellesley and Harvard. Just this year, Stanford has gone varsity with their women's lacrosse program, so a Division I team right off the bat will be the acid test to determine whether or not this team has the chemistry to carry it to higher ground than it reached last year. But Martin has no doubts that it does. "It's exciting to be in second place, but it's an incredible challenge. Teams respect us now, so that'll be an advantage."

The big game this year will no doubt be a vengeance match on April 28 at home, when the team takes on the Bates Bobcats, the only team to mar its record last year during the regular season. Other big rivals should include UVM, Connecticut College, and Williams, but with a past record like the Panthers', the leadership and ability that this team has and the momentum and memories to carry them through another year, a successful season is all but certain.

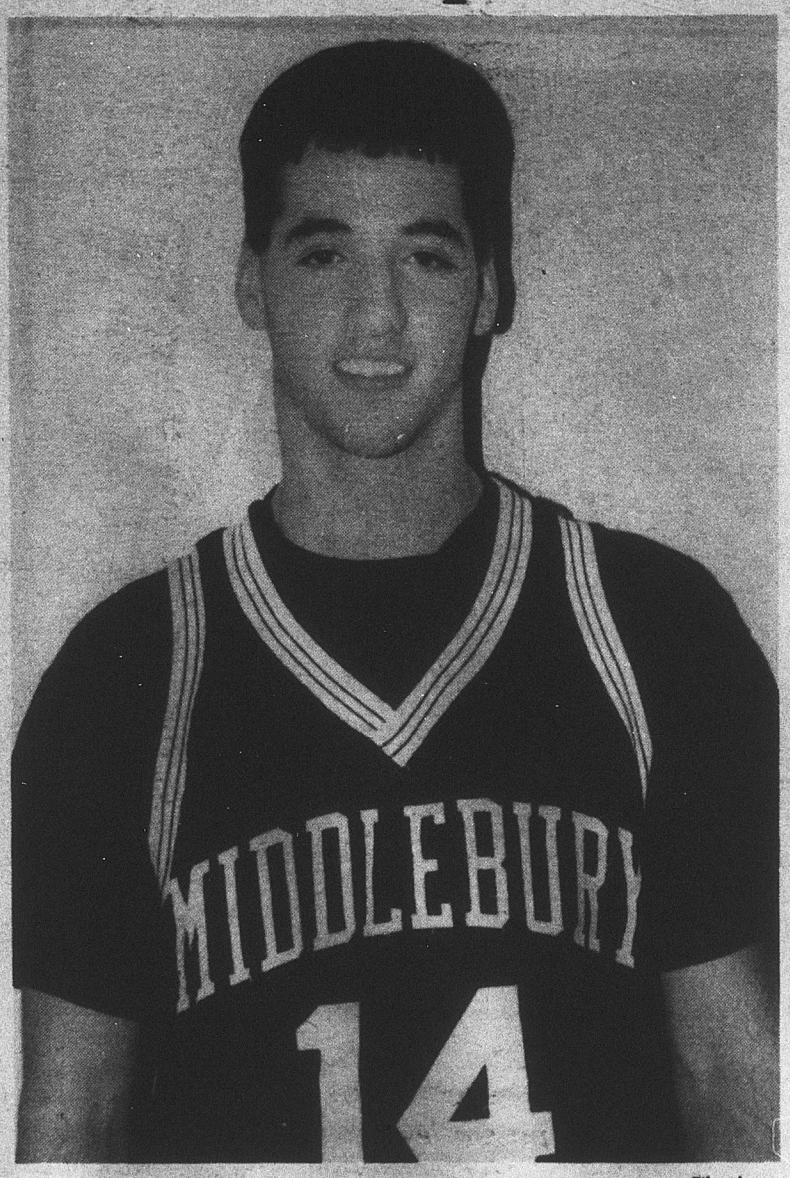
Volleyball plays tough, drops two



Duncan Bruce

Robyn Erman '97 *gets up for a spike during a five-game match against Plymouth State on Saturday. Later, the team would fall to UNH despite solid play all around. The team plays its final match this weekend.*

Prenevost inspires fellow Panthers both on and off the court



File photo

Jason Prenevost '95, bane of defenders, will finally hang up his high-tops.

By Jeremy Cutler

If there had been a prophet bold enough to inform the Middlebury hoops community in 1991 that an unassuming, 5'11" 165-pound freshman, born and bred in the arctic backwoods of Lake Bomoseen, Vermont, would, over the following 4 years, go on to set Middlebury all-time records for most 3-point shots made in a game and in a career, best 3-point and free-throw shooting percentage in a career, best Division 3 free-throw shooting percentage in the country, and fourth most points scored in a career, that soothsayer likely would have been laughed all the way to Vergennes.

But Jason Prenevost has never put a lot of stock in luck or odds, instead relying on a ferocious work ethic and an unyielding love of the game to earn Coach Russ Reilly's praise as "one of the best players ever to put on a Panther jersey."

Basketball was in Prenevost's blood practically from day one, as he recalls happily joining his father, a successful high-school coach, at practices as early on as age five. As soon as he could, he began to play the game himself and slowly worked himself to the top echelons of each progressive age group, until upon reaching high school he opted to transfer just over the border to New York State and Whitehall High School where he could play at a higher and more intense level. A post-graduate year at Northfield Mount Hermon was next on Prenevost's itinerary to fame and was the last stop before Middlebury College came knocking at his door.

From the day he first set foot in Pepin Gymnasium, Prenevost was thrust into a crucial role. His deft shooting touch and unparalleled ball-handling skills made him an immediate asset to the team, and indeed he became an instrumental part of the team's early successes. Still, Prenevost knew the importance of constantly improving his game. His partner in the backcourt Tim Bianchi '95 explains: "When he came into the league, Jason was already one of the most talented players around. But for four straight years he stayed at the top of his game, even against defenses that were all but customized to stop him. He just had such a pure love for the game and for hard work that he wouldn't let anything get in his way."

Mark Sylvester '95, Prenevost's backup, agrees. "Jason leads by example. He inspires those around him to get the most out of their game through his relentless work ethic and insane intensity. He gives it his all."

The Panthers knew at the beginning of the season that things could potentially be tough. While stalwart pivotman Jason Cussler '95 felt pretty healthy, the prominent Panther frontcourt members of Ari Kriegsman '96 and Jethro Ferguson '96 were both unavailable, as was scrappy guard Mike Roche '97. It didn't take a rocket scientist to figure out that much of the lost offense would be put on Prenevost's shoulders, which would also ironically coincide with opposing defenses scheming even harder to shut him down.

Maybe that's why in the words of teammate Aaron Vanderlaan '95, Prenevost "was awe-inspiring in the pre-season, that's how hard he worked."

Prenevost himself admits to working out incessantly this summer, lifting and playing every day to prepare. Anyone who saw the Panthers in action this season knows that it paid off. While the team did not fare as well as Prenevost and his teammates may have liked, on a personal level he did not lose a step. Cussler still shakes his head when describing Prenevost getting hot during a game. "It's like being one of Jordan's teammates," Cussler says. "You just stand there and watch as he scores at will on the defense, and all you can do is shake your head, run the floor and smile."

Matt Lasek '98 cites a feeling of relief that comes with playing alongside Prenevost. "You just know he's always a threat and that when things are going poorly or when we need some help to get back on track, he's right there." In the light of this comment, one can't help but remember last year's contest against Norwich, where, after missing his first 2 free throws of the year, Prenevost got the ball back and promptly sank a three to win the game at the buzzer.

Probably the most inspiring aspect of Prenevost game, however, is his off-court demeanor. "He has the skills to be really cocky," Sylvester reflects, "but everyone who knows Jason knows how modest he is about his game. He's a team player."

Bianchi, who has been right next to Prenevost for all four years, adds, "As good as he became, Jason was never beyond the rest of us. He was always one of the guys — his head never swelled a bit."

Although basketball season is now over, Prenevost is still very busy. Having just completed his history thesis, he is now concentrating on his teaching certification, which will likely occur sometime after he graduates in May. For now, Prenevost says, he is going to take a little time away from basketball and re-evaluate things. He claims that his only policy at this time, as far as hoops and his future is concerned, is that he is not ruling anything out. Nor should he, for this writer knows that whatever the future holds for him, #14 will always be a big jersey to fill.

Men's lax looks forward to upcoming campaign

(continued from page 28)

usual English tours.

With the commencement of the spring term, the Panthers have put the fun and games aside and gotten down to the business of preparing for the upcoming campaign. Complete with 6 a.m. practices in the Fletcher Field House (also known as "Home of the Shin Splint"), the laxmen, under the watchful eye of coaches Erin Quinn and Mickey Heinecken, have begun the task of molding the talent into a finely-tuned machine. The Panthers have made three additions to their coaching staff with newly-created graduate assistant positions.

Returning to help guide the Panthers are former standout defenseman Scott Reid '94, ex-ECAC playoff hero Ian McCray 'SP and the team's new Division I fashion coordinator, Roy McKinnon '94.

Despite the toll taken due to graduation, the team returns a solid nucleus of talent. Charlie Whinery '96 returns as the leading scorer as well as a 1994 first-team All-New England selection. Juniors Kyle Swann and Bill Gowski, as well as sophomore Nick Whitman, will be back to provide potency for the attack.

The midfield will be led by Cullen Meade '96 who is returning after being hampered with a collarbone injury at the end of last year. Long-stick midfielder and captain Matt Wolfman '95 will provide the first line of defense for the Panthers this season.

Defensively, Jeff Mebel '95 (a former Independent School League standout) will be looked upon to anchor the defensive corps. Mebel is recovering from a season-ending knee injury he sustained during football this past year, but should be fully recovered by the beginning of the season. Nick Owsley '97 and Alex Dessouky '96 will also be integral parts of the defense.

Ian Wolfe '96 returns as a two-year starter in goal, and, as usual, will provide the backbone for the team as it makes its bid to become a national contender and play in the NCAA tournament at the end of the season.

The team will first lock horns with Colby on March 26, and will have its home opener on April 1 against Connecticut College.

The Sports Section is looking for a co-editor for the rest of the year. If you are interested in getting involved, please contact Dave at x3683.

Hockey Regular Season Statistics

SCORING:

Player	*Games*	*Goals*	*Assists*	*Points*
Ian Smith	23	17	26	43
David Medow	23	11	23	34
Michael Anastasio	23	16	16	32
Marc Belliveau	22	11	19	30
Sebastien Bilodeau	21	18	12	30
Martin Lachaine	22	10	17	27
Joe Dumas	22	14	11	25
Mark Spence	21	11	13	24
TEAM	23	149	231	380

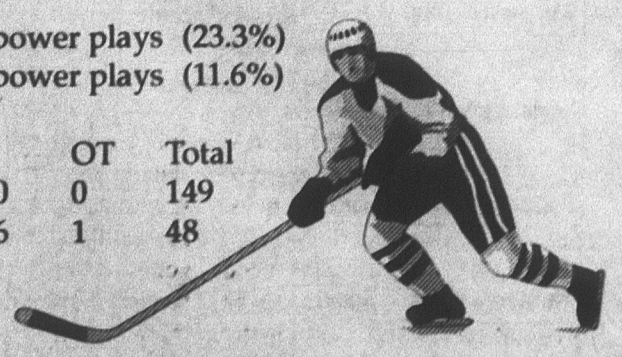
GOALTENDING:	*Games*	*Goals Against*	*Goals Against Average*
Francois Bourbeau	14	21	1.74
Chris Farion	13	27	2.43

TEAM STATISTICS:

Power Play Percentage

Middlebury	34 goals	146 power plays	(23.3%)
Opponent	14 goals	121 power plays	(11.6%)

Score By Periods	1	2	3	OT	Total
Middlebury	41	58	50	0	149
Opponent	13	18	16	1	48



Lack of returning players weakens men's tennis, page 27

Prenevost inspires on and off the court, page 27

Track shines at ECACs, looks ahead

By Brendan Fitzsimons and Cisco Heller

Last weekend the Middlebury track and field members who qualified for the ECAC Division III Championships traveled to Boston University in Centerville, Massachusetts, to compete in the last winter track meet of the season.

Athletes that placed well enough would be continuing on to Ohio Northern for nationals. The day had more than its fair share of broken records, both collegiate and personal.

Leading the Panther charge was veteran Foster Goodrich '95, who entered the thrower's circle ranked 12th nationally with a personal record of 52 feet 6 inches in the weight throw. To qualify for nationals he knew he would have to throw at least 53 feet and, assuming the other competitors would be breaking their own records, perhaps even further.

After some warm-up posturing with the rest of the field, Goodrich proceeded to demonstrate who the boss really was with a best throw of 53 feet 2 and 3/4 inches, enough for fourth place overall and a spot at Nationals next weekend. He also swept up the school record along the way.

Realizing he wouldn't have another chance after ECACs to qualify, Goodrich taciturnly commented "I had to do it, and I did it." Goodrich's success is sure to continue at Nationals, and he will doubtless set another record in the weight throw next weekend.

Although pole vaulter Murray Harris '98 missed qualifying for the NCAA Championships, he still posted an impressive third place effort at 13' 9".

Matt Markowski '96 ran the 400-meter dash in 52.43 seconds. Markowski had set a personal best two weeks earlier of 51 seconds and change and he had hoped to better his time.

Unfortunately his body was not cooperating.

"I knew from my first step of the race that I was not going to have a fast time." Markowski remarked the track also had a number of "dead spots" which further hindered his effort.

The Middlebury women's team also posted some impressive results. First-year Anne Marie Oberg and veteran captain Janine Hetherington '95 continued to demonstrate the strength of the Panthers in the weight events with a one-two punch.

The two teammates have enjoyed a friendly rivalry over the course of the season, pushing each other to ever-stronger performances.

Early in the season, Oberg broke the school record, only to have Het-

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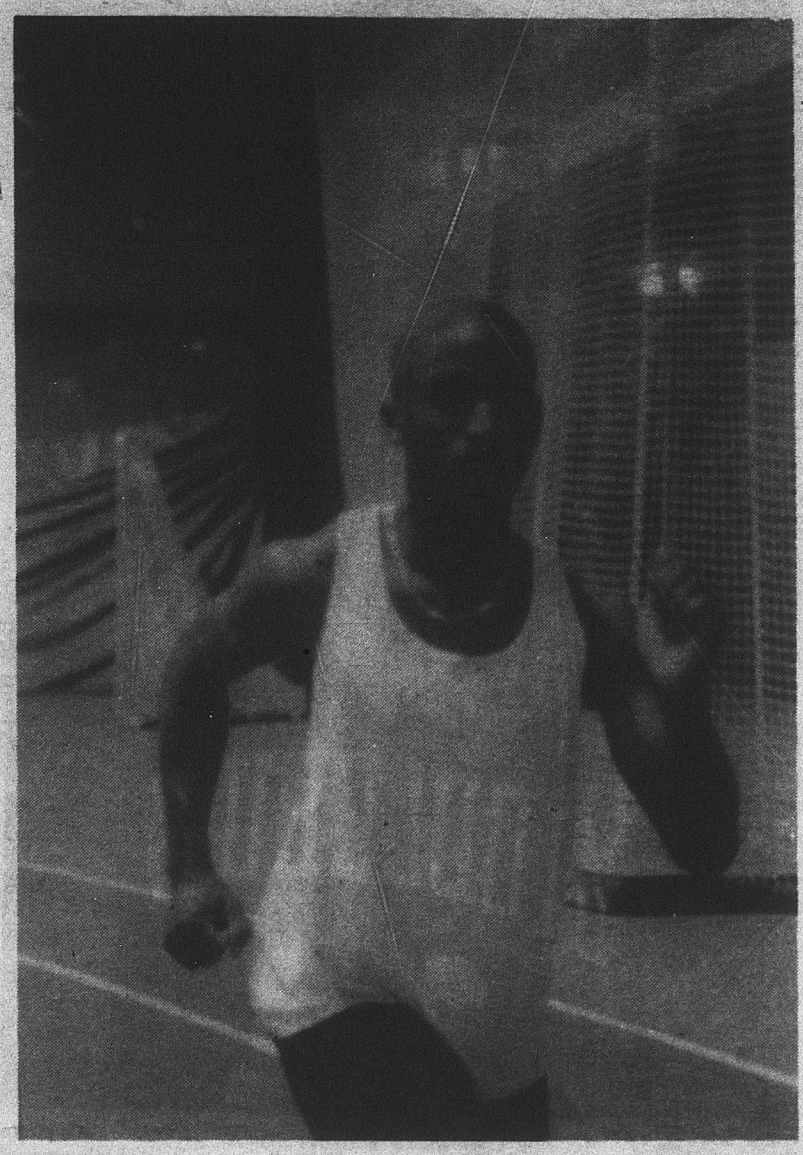

Rebecca Fine

Preparing for the spring, Kris Clarke '97 works out in Fletcher Field House.

Women's lacrosse looks to reach playoffs again

By Dave Mallick

The Middlebury women's lacrosse team has not had a losing season in its history, racking up an incredible 138-52-3 record since its inception in 1971. One would think that that act would be hard to keep up year after year, but thanks to strong play from all members of the team, last year's team was the second in a row to be ranked second nationally in NCAA Division III.

Last year's squad rang up an impressive 14-2 record and was only stopped in the national semifinals by Trenton State, winner of three past such tournaments and eventual winners of the division tournament. In doing so, however, the Panthers did manage to hold the three-time champs to their lowest offensive output of the year, 13-7, and even though the team didn't bring back a championship trophy, they did come back with the Division III Coach of the Year, Missy Foote.

This year the team looks to be even more powerful with the return of all but two seniors, including the entire defensive line, the same defensive line which stymied the steam-train offense of Trenton State. The only big question mark about this year's team is the goalkeeping, as one of last year's losses was Lissa Gipson '94, last year's Division III goalie of the year. So far, two first-years have stepped up to take Gipson's spot. Stephanie Hill and Emily Bracken have bravely volunteered to step into the position, and although they will be big shoes to fill, the nearly impenetrable defensive line, with yet another year of playing together, should help turn away would-be attackers. This year's leadership will come from co-captains Sarah Martin '95 and Kelly Hefner '95. No doubt the bond between sisters will come into play as sister Jen Hefner '97, will be playing her second year of lacrosse with Kelly. Martin commented, "We've got our entire defensive zone back and almost our entire offensive attack, too," though the team must overcome the loss of Kirsten Morbeck '94, one of last year's top scorers. "But we've got new people that have made the team and it's just a matter of us all molding together and being able to do it," she added.

Do it they will, it looks like. Despite losing in the semifinals to that Trenton State team, pre-season

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Men's hockey team steams into NCAAs

By Scott Dabney

The NCAA playoffs start this weekend with the Middlebury men's hockey team taking on Plattsburgh State. There are eight teams in the playoffs and Middlebury, riding a 16-game unbeaten streak, is making its first appearance in the NCAA playoffs at number one in the eastern division.

Plattsburgh, although ranked fourth, is an unknown element in the equation, having never played the Panthers. In terms of sheer amount of wins, the Cardinals hold the edge, sporting a 20-7-2 record, but the Panthers' unwillingness to let the opposition anywhere near the goal allowed them to be ranked above not only Plattsburgh, but also Fredonia State (New York) and Salem State (Massachusetts), the second- and third-place teams, respectively.

However, should the Panthers advance through this round, they would not face another eastern foe for another game, as the semifinal game would be against the winner of St. Mary's (Minnesota) and Wisconsin-River Falls. The format of the quarterfinal entails hosting Friday and Saturday games against Plattsburgh, a rather different procedure from other sports.

A two-game series allows the NCAA "to ensure that the best team advances," explains head coach Bill Beaney. Either a pair of wins or one win and one tie will allow the Panther's to advance to the semi-finals. Should the two teams split wins, a 15-minute mini-game would follow the Saturday contest to decide the series winner.

After two weeks of practices in which Beaney hoped to sharpen the team's all-around play, the Panthers should be eager for an opponent. After such an impressive regular season, the Panthers hope the two week layoff will help, not hurt.

A potent offense and stingy defense characterized Middlebury's regular season performance. Outscoring their opponents 149-48, Middlebury simply overpowered most of its competition. Ian Smith '96 finishes the season with a team-leading 43 points. Senior Captain David Medow followed with 34 points for the year, and the team on a whole boasted no fewer than 9 players with more than 20 points.

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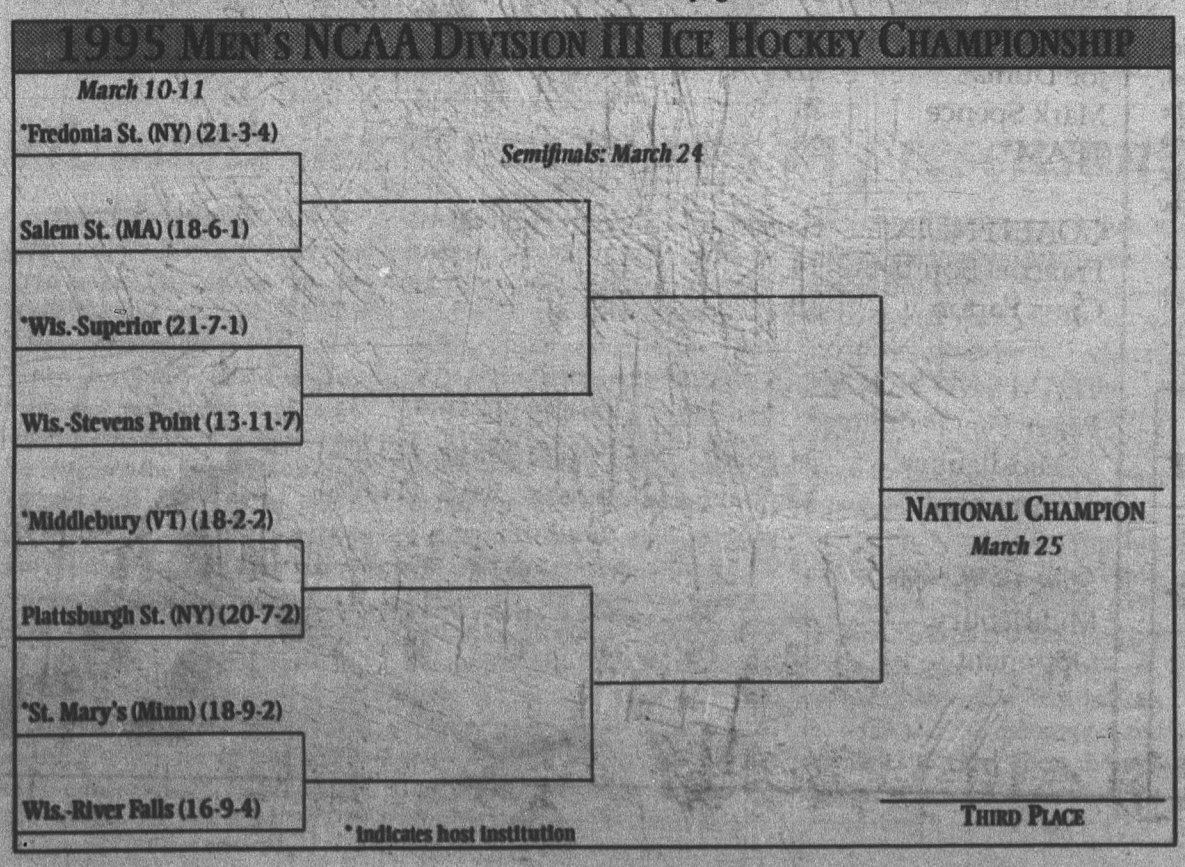

Panther lax hungers for new season,opponents

By John Meany

The Middlebury men's lacrosse team approaches the 1995 season with great experience and high expectations. Despite losing several valuable members from last year's team, the group of athletes figures to continue competing successfully on the national scene.

Last year's campaign saw the Panthers rack up a 10-3 record, with a spotless 10-0 showing in league play. Despite this worthy showing, the NCAA selection committee thought otherwise and passed them over in favor of teams from New York to fill up the Northeast division selections.

However, the team did end up as a powerful number one-seeded team in the ECACs and went on to a successful playoff run that could possibly be repeated this year, thanks to rigorous pre-season preparation and the return of some key players from last year's talent-laden squad.

The Panthers recently returned from their February break visit across the pond in England where the team, despite little practice together as a group,. fared well against the English club teams. Led by head chaperone and chief tour guide Peter Kohn, the team got to experience the British way of life with Kohn showing them a side of England not normally covered by the

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